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Niagara NEWS

NOV. 13, 1998 VOLUME 29, NO. 4 FREE

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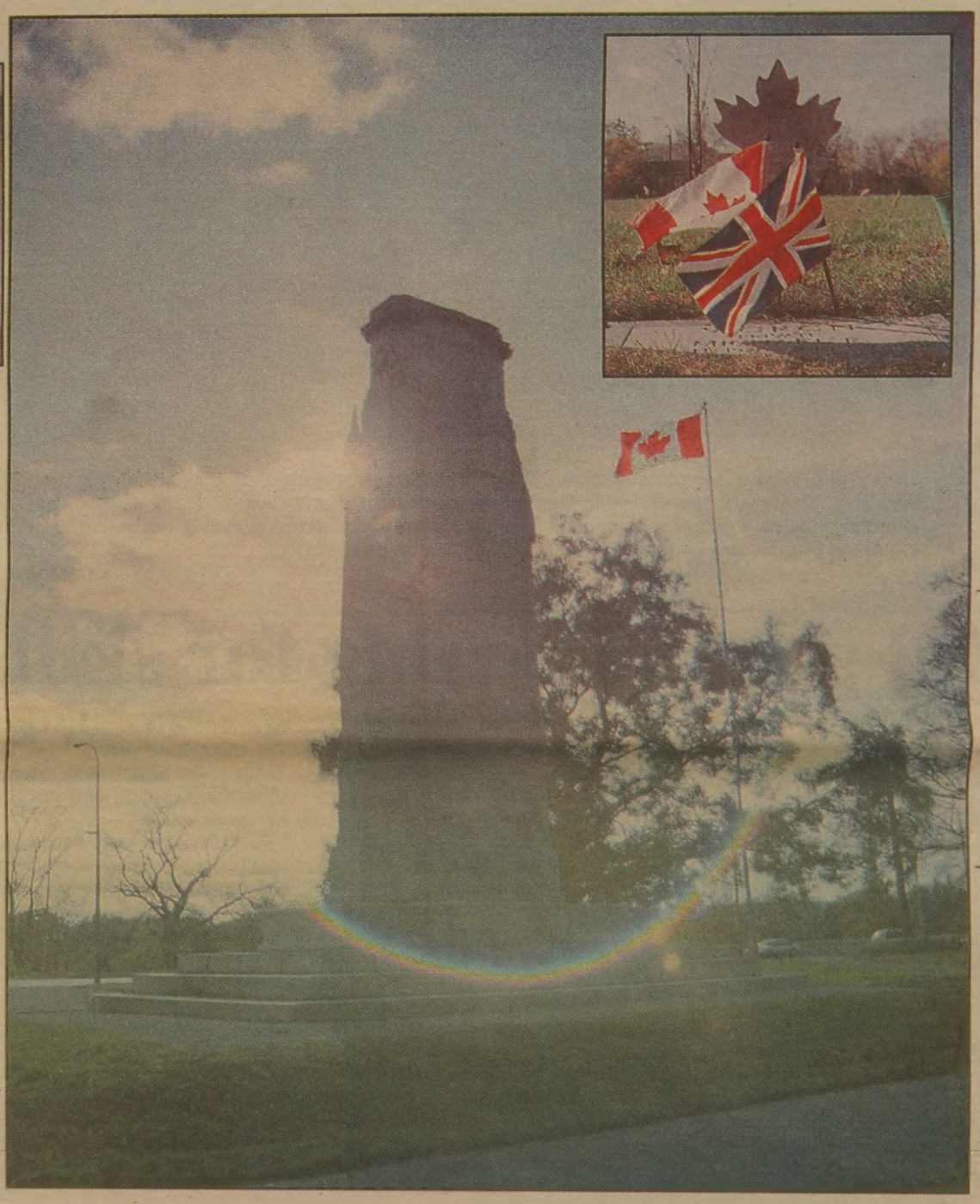

Remembrance Day is a day of thought
To remember those who died and fought.
If not for them and the lessons taught
Our lives today, heaven forbid we forgot,
Would be unbearable, if our freedom were not.

--E.E.

The cenotaph on St. Paul Street in St. Catharines stands as a reminder of those who fought and died for Canada's freedom. See our photo illustration on pages 12 and 13.

Photo by Sean Coffey
Inset by Lee Whitehead

SAC helps students in need

By ANGELA PICKERING
Staff Writer

It's students helping students.

A food drive is being organized to help students in need at Niagara College.

Jay MacInnis, vice-president of campus events for the Student Administrative Council (SAC), says the event is to assist students who need help at this time of year.

The Food for Friends Drive begins Nov. 16 and ends Dec. 18.

Boxes or barrels will be placed at the main buildings at the Welland campus for anyone who would like to contribute non-perishable food items.

STUDENT ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL SAC

MacInnis says it's close to Christmas and many people are spending their Ontario Student Assistance Program money on Christmas presents and may be running a little short of food for the month.

A distribution room will be organized on campus so students won't feel intimidated by the idea someone might see them go in and get food.

There is no cost to obtain food.

SAC wants students to help contribute, so others can have a good Christmas too, says MacInnis.

A Christian organization is helping SAC with the food drive and a few local stores, including Zehrs, are contributing their dented cans.

The radio station 101.1 The River, in Niagara Falls, is providing some advertising for SAC.

Further information will be detailed after the food drive begins.

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News Across Niagara

Going once, twice, sold to highest bidder

By JENN MOIR
Staff Writer

Start your engines.

Niagara College's Skill Centre for Motive Power Training at the Welland campus had its grand opening on Nov. 6.

In the evening, following a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a gala dinner and auction called Start Your Engines was held in the autobody shop of the facility.

About 250 people attended the dinner and auctions.

Tickets for the dinner cost $50 each.

Before dinner, the silent auction began. On each table, in front of each item, there was a bidding sheet. Guests had to sign a sheet and make a bid. If someone out-bid them, they would have to bid again. Guests could continue to bid until the auction closed.

There were about 50 items to bid on. Items included a hockey stick autographed by members of the Phoenix Coyotes, a Jeff Gordon poster, an autographed Elvis Stojko poster as well as other donated sports- and car-related items.

The silent auction was closed during dinner.

Chris Blake, executive director, Niagara College Foundation-Marketing and Communications, spars with Mike Strange, Commonwealth Games boxing champion and Olympic Games participant. Strange donated a pair of autographed Everlast gloves that were auctioned at the grand opening of the Skill Centre for Motive Power Training Centre on Nov. 6.

Photo by Jenn Moir

Dinner was prepared by J. Mark Hand, chef de cuisine and food and beverage manager, and with the assistance of students from the Culinary Management program at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls.

Students from the Hotel and Restaurant Management (co-op) program served the buffet-style meal, dessert, coffee and tea for guests.

After dinner the open auction began with Chris Blake, executive director, Niagara College Foundation-Marketing and Communications, as auctioneer.

Some of the items auctioned off included a 192-piece mechanics tool set and box valued at $1,050 that sold for only $550; a pair of Everlast gloves, autographed by Niagara resident and Commonwealth Games boxing champion Mike Strange that sold for $325; and a one-night stay with breakfast at White Oaks Inn, in Niagara-on-the-Lake, valued at $210 that sold for $210.

Funds raised during the night are to support programs and equipment at the centre.

Successful grand opening for skill centre

By JENN MOIR
Staff Writer

Praise and congratulations were in abundance at the grand opening of Niagara College's Skill Centre for Motive Power Training at the Welland campus.

On Nov. 6, about 200 people attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony in the auto body shop of the 27,000-square-foot, $2 million facility.

Host of the festivities, Bonnie Rose, the college's vice-president academic, said the facility is a "real work of love on the part of the college."

"Niagara College is alive and well here in Welland," she said.

Rose introduced several speakers throughout the night.

Saundra Patterson, the first speaker, spoke on behalf of her husband, Niagara College President Dan Patterson, who was unable to attend because of a prior business engagement.

She said "another exciting chapter in the proud history of Niagara College" has been launched.

Patterson thanked the business and industry supporters.

"This has truly been a wonderful example of partnership between industry and education."

Tom Gauld, chair of the Niagara College Board of Governors and president of Canadian Tire Acceptance Ltd., in Welland, said the centre is "truly a demonstration of our commitment to first-class training."

Gauld said the centre is an "important element" in the college's Master Plan.

Walt Lastewka, federal MP for St. Catharines and parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Industry, gave praise to the college.

"I would like to commend . . . all the people who have contributed to make this happen."

Lastewka said he believes there will always be a need for motive trades and the facility will be successful meeting that need.

Tom Froese, provincial MPP for St. Catharines-Brock and parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Education and Training, Colleges and Universities, said the college "continues to be a leader in developing and re-inventing programs."

Froese said the college's willingness and commitment to offer state-of-the-art facilities and skills benefits the student and employer.

Peter Kormos, provincial MPP for Welland-Thorold, "apologized" to the crowd for the number of politicians in attendance.

"I understand this is discomforting, and quite frankly I don't envy you."

Kormos said he has watched the college grow and mature, "spreading its presence across this region in a very successful way."

Kormos said he is pleased to see tax dollars being used on education.

Welland Mayor Dick Reuter contributed to the procession of praise.

Reuter said the college is an asset to Welland because many benefits for the city "stem" from the college.

Don Treschak, chair of the college's Motive Power Trades Advisory committee and owner of Treschak Enterprises Ltd., in Welland, says he feels lucky to have been able to watch the plans for the centre unfold.

"This facility is going to allow the automotive employers of southern Ontario, if not all of Ontario, the ability to hire entry-level employees with skills that would have cost us thousands of dollars and maybe years of on-job training."

Treschak said the centre will give the students the edge to compete in job market.

Brian Moukperian, director, integrated manufacturing and customized training at Niagara, said the opening is a "real dream."

Moukperian said he will continue to work on new projects, new curriculum and getting employment for students.

David Spear, co-ordinator of motive power training and owner of Dave Spear Ltd., in Fort Erie, said he has plans for the front entranceway.

A motto for the centre will be displayed, a Niagara College logo = quality skills = quality jobs.

Spear said the entranceway will have a Wall of Fame.

At present, there are 25 individuals and companies who will have their names on the wall because they have made capital donations.

Upon the completion of the last speech, the ribbon was cut, signifying the official opening of the centre.

Later in the night, an industry-supported dinner, plus silent and open auctions were held.

One of the many cars that was on display at the Nov. 6 grand opening of the Skill Centre for Motive Power Training.

Photo by Jenn Moir

Calendars available Nov. 20

By LEAH FARNAN
Staff Writer

Keep your eyes peeled.

Niagara College's Continuing Education department will be sending copies of its new winter calendar to houses in the Niagara Region the weekend of Nov. 20.

The office, in Hennepin Hall at the Welland campus, may have copies a few days before they're to be sent out.

Registration for new classes begins Nov. 23.

Word on Campus

What do you think about during that moment of silence at Remembrance Day memorials?

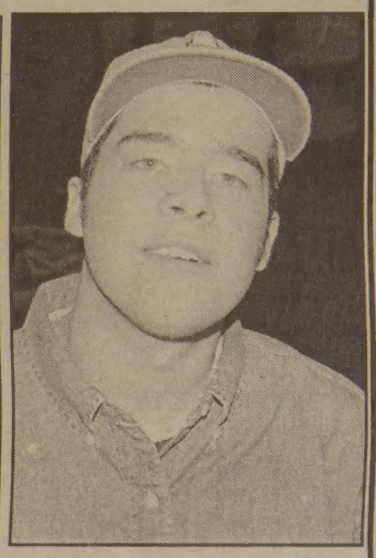
By RACHEL CZIFRA
Staff Writer

"Sometimes I think about what we have today and that it's a result of what they did," said **Brenda Van Ede**, 20, Early Childhood Education program, from St. Catharines.

"My grandpa, because he talks about his story, his friends. I think about the survivors and the families of people that didn't survive," said **Valerie Hall**, 18, Early Childhood Education program, from St. Catharines.

"I remember people that I've lost that are close to me," said **Cathy Persia**, 22, Early Childhood Education program, from Welland.

"I remember that song they continue to play on the radio, I forget what it's called, you know, that Remembrance Day song," said **Ryan Shapton**, 20, in the Computer Programmer/Analyst (Co-op) program, from Niagara Falls.



"I think of Vimy Ridge, how 9,198 Canadians were wounded and killed. Big time, I'm right into that," said **Alex Leyland**, 21, in the General Arts and Science program, from Welland.

Child's welfare FAC's priority for more than 100 years

By TYLER-LEIGH ROBINSON
Staff Writer

Protecting children is the number 1 concern and top priority of a local United Way agency.

Family and Children's Services (FACS) has been providing communities with child protection and family services for more than 100 years.

The FACS agency began as the Humane Society, providing animals with protection and medical assistance. Citizens in the community came to this agency with concerns that the same assistance should be provided for children and families.

As a result, FACS was established.

Last year, FACS social service workers dealt with 3,000 child protection concerns, conducted 435 child abuse investigations and provided 558 people with other services.

FACS provides families and children with foster care, adoption services, child protection, family counselling and nursery schools.

The agency's New Outlooks and Beginnings program assists youth leaving foster care to live independently within the community.

There is a toy lending library for children and families.

FACS holds special events throughout the year to help raise money for Summer Smiles, which gives children a chance to experience camp and day activities.

An annual September golf tournament raises $4,000 to $5,000, and the Rotary Club holds a silent auction and wine-tasting event each October.

There is a children's and a Christmas fund for people in need.

Those who wish to donate to the Christmas fund and give families a chance for a happier holiday time are reminded FACS will only accept monetary donations.

Julie Mitchell, director of development and public relations at the agency, said FACS is important in helping the community because it's the only children's aid society in service. Protecting a child's welfare is their business.

"I believe in families and the health and well-being of children."

Mitchell said families who don't have a strong foundation don't give children much help or hope for a good future.

She said she feels if the agency is able to help children at an early age assistance will prevent them from getting into drugs and living on the streets in the future.

She said she finds keeping children from being abused and helping them stay healthy is meaningful.

The FACS agency provides service to the Niagara Region with offices in Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland.

Food-grazing night set for Nov. 18

A wine-tasting, food-grazing night with an auction of "great escapes" will be held at Niagara College's Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism in Niagara Falls on Nov. 18.

The event will benefit the Niagara College Foundation, the college's money-raising arm, and the Carousel Players of St. Catharines.

Tickets cost $30 a person or $50 a couple. The event begins at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, telephone Liz Palmieri at Niagara College, 682-8326 ext. 4103.

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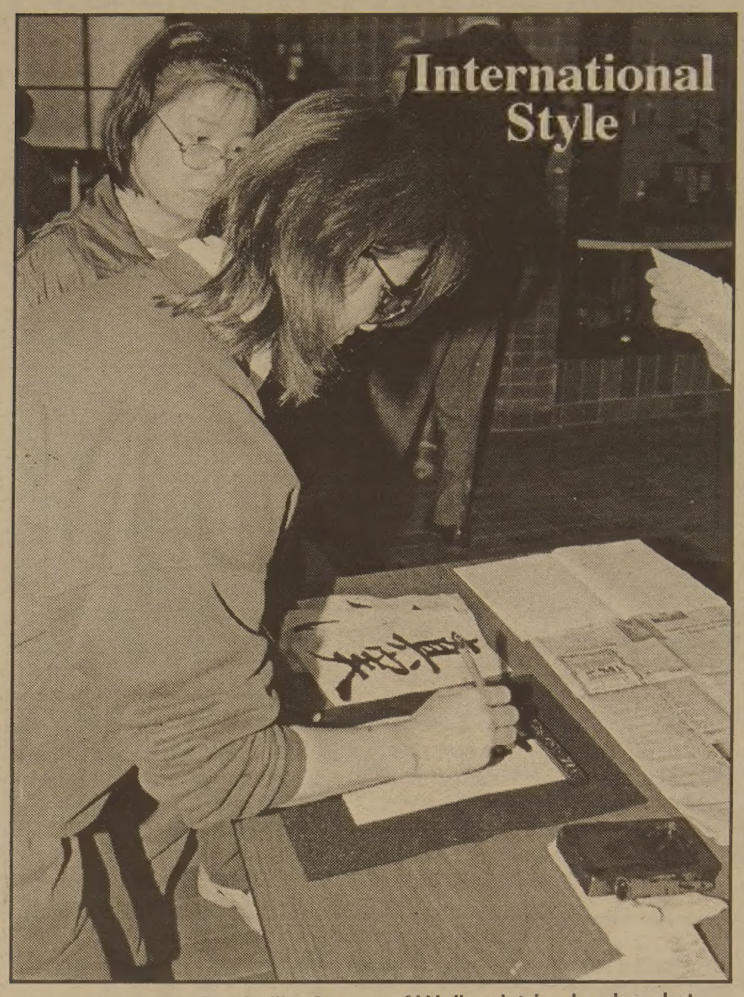
International

Many international opportunities available



Margaret Anne Robitaille-Green, of Welland, tries her hand at calligraphy at the International Day, on Oct. 29, at the Welland campus.

Photo by Jackie Field

Raising student awareness

By MUN-HEE SHIN
Staff Writer

A lot of international opportunities are waiting for you including a new bursary.

The International Day events were opened at Niagara College's Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake on Oct. 30.

Events consisted of an auditorium presentation in the morning, international cuisine samples for sale over the lunch period and international trivia.

International projects were displayed all day, and on-campus interviews for the Association of Canadian Community Colleges and International Youth Internship Program ran all afternoon.

During the auditorium presentation, an announcement was made regarding the establishment of a new International Experience Bursary.

This bursary will eventually be available to Niagara College students who require some financial assistance and are interested in conducting an international co-op placement or volunteer opportunity.

Alison Ortwein, 26, of St. Catharines, international development officer, said the events are to "make students aware of things that are going on internationally," adding the proceeds from the event would be the first contribution to the bursary.

"We want students to be aware that international employment and volunteer opportunities are available to them," said Ortwein.

Two graduates from the Ecosystem Restoration program, Jennifer Gillian, 23, of Guelph, and Kim Makela, 23, of Brampton, held a slide show presentation of their co-op placement project in Argentina.

They stayed in Argentina for 3 1/2 months from May to August this year.

Makela said they did restoration projects for Argentineans and worked with the National Institute of Agricultural Technology for one month in Villa Mercedes, Argentina.

"We wanted to have experience internationally, and it was a great opportunity to work there," said Gillian.

John Middleton, 45, of St. Catharines, director of the Environmental Policy Institute at Brock University in St. Catharines, spoke on international opportunities for students.

Damien Dunne, 28, of Ottawa, intern for international project management at the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) in Ottawa, spoke on the projects selecting and deploying youth interns abroad. This is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Human Resource Department of Canada.

Ortwein said the International Awareness Day events have been running at Niagara College for years.

"This is obviously the first event here at the Glendale campus. We hope to make it an annual event here as well," said Ortwein.

She emphasized the importance of searching for employment possibilities internationally.

"There are number of opportunities waiting for our graduates, and the best tool in finding these opportunities is the Internet," said Ortwein.

The addresses are http://www.youth.gc.ca., http://www.overseasjobs.com and http://www.accc.ca for the ACCC's International Internship Program, and http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca for CIDA's.

For more information, you can visit Ortwein's office at East 301 at the Glendale campus or call her at ext. 4476.

Grad co-ops work in Argentina

Argentina bound

By JACKIE FIELD
Staff Writer

He's off to Argentina.

John Middleton, 45, of St. Catharines, director of the Environmental Policy Institute at Brock University in St. Catharines, spoke at the International Awareness Day at Niagara College's Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake on Oct. 30.

Middleton played a part in sending two Niagara College graduates from the Ecosystem Restoration (Post-Graduate) program to Argentina.

Jennifer Gillam, 23, of Guelph, and Kim Makela, 23, of Brampton, will spend 3 1/2 months on a co-op in Argentina.

Middleton said "the pilot program worked well with Kim and

Brock University and Niagara College have had various connections in the past as they were co-partners in Thailand for the last five years and are co-applicants there now, he said, adding he's on the board of directors for environmental training.

He left for Argentina on Nov. 5 and will be gone for 10 days.

He said he wants to tell his colleagues in Argentina there is an "equal interest from Brock and Niagara."

"Colleagues in Niagara share the same interest," said Middleton, adding he hopes the "relationship with Niagara continues to grow."

Middleton will be in Argentina to teach a program he helped his colleagues in Argentina design.

He said he'll be teaching a full graduate program — Human Environmental Systems at the University of Rosario — for six days, four hours a day.

While there, he said, he'll try to work on other on-going projects if he has time.

Middleton said he's interested in other countries because "once you've done it (travel), it's never out of your blood and you'll want to do it again and again."

He said he got the travelling bug in 1982 when he went to Tanzania.

"(I) personally benefited . . . (they were) good experiences."

He said sometimes college officials have to "scramble" to find students who want to go, but other times they talk to people who are "dying" to go.

As long as someone has the "interest," they'll find a way to do it, he said, adding "(an) international experience is fundamentally different" and he "highly recommends it."

He said his colleagues in Argentina are "hoping" more students from Niagara and Brock visit and study in Argentina.

Recruiting students across globe

Vandenboom visits Japan, China

By MUN-HEE SHIN
Staff Writer

She said she's excited to go to Japan and China for recruitment.

Susan Vandenboom, 38, of Fonthill, co-ordinator of the English as a Second Language (ESL) program, left for Japan and China for student recruitment on Nov. 1.

She said she's scheduled to go to an education fair and meet some agents that Niagara College works with.

The education fair is sponsored by the Canadian Consulate in Osaka, Japan.

"I'll talk to them about the latest programs which are new to them, the ESL program and the new Glendale campus (in Niagara-on-the-Lake)," said Vandenboom.

She said the number of Japanese students coming to Niagara has been increasing.

"Also, word of mouth is becoming bigger and more important."

After spending a few days in Japan, she goes to Shanghai to test some students who are interested in studying in the Hotel and Restaurant Management

program at Niagara College.

They are studying at Sanda University in Shanghai.

Vandenboom said Sanda University wants to send those students to Niagara to study in the Hotel and Restaurant program for one year.

"My job is to go there and to assess their English proficiency — whether their English levels are high enough to succeed in the program at Niagara College," said Vandenboom.

She said she will give them a standardized test, a special writing test and oral interviews.

"It's always interesting for me to see and talk to people directly. Besides, I feel responsibility on behalf of the college."

Susan Vandenboom, 38, of Fonthill, an English as a Second Language teacher, promotes a recruitment project in Japan and China.

Photo by Mun-Hee Shin

International

Sampling life from other countries

Event planned by English as a Second Language students

By JACKIE FIELD
Staff Writer

International Day came to the Welland campus.

Students from across the world displayed items from their countries at the fourth annual International Day outside the library Oct. 29.

Booths from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Colombia, Japan and Korea were set up for one hour.

The event was put together by the English as a Second Language students and Susan Vandenboom, program co-ordinator.

Vandenboom said, "It's voluntary and almost all of the international countries participated, who brought things from their country."

Young Kun Kang, 22, of Korea, had his table set up with Korean wedding dolls, a flag, a book and a game.

The latter was called Youth Game. It consisted of four wooden youth sticks with Chinese characters on one end, and pictures on each one. Also displayed was a paper used as a game board.

Kang said, "Usually two teams play, (and) two to three players are on each team."

The sticks are thrown in the air. If they land with the picture and characters up you move forward five spaces; if it lands on the wood side with no picture you move one space forward.

"(We) play it with family, friends, and relatives for fun."

He said it is usually played on holidays.

The Chinese characters on the end of the youth stick mean "good luck," said Kang, adding Koreans use that character because at one time they didn't have their own.

Kang said 3,000 or 4,000 years ago the king of Korea created the Korean language.

"We use that more than the Chinese but we stayed with some of the characters because they mean the same thing," said Kang.

He said the character for good luck is usually written only on holidays and letters.

Koreans use Chinese characters on cards, while the Japanese use calligraphy on "special occasions, and on New Year's cards," said Mari Kuwabara, 21, of Japan, who said calligraphy originated in China.

Kuwabara had numerous sets of chopsticks layed out along with beans in boxes so students could try their chopstick skills.

Many students tried; some were successful.

She said the beans used in the demonstration are spread around outside in February to keep "demons" away.

Also set up at the Japan table was Maki Takeuchi, 28, of Japan, who was demonstrating the art of calligraphy.

Matt Charlton, 18, left and Chef Sameer Pruthee, 24, served International food at the Maid of the Mist Centre, in Niagara Falls at the Open House, on Oct. 31. **Photo by Jackie Field**

Takeuchi would write whatever you wanted, and then she would let you try yourself.

Along with demonstrating chopsticks and calligraphy, Tomiko Sugaya, of Japan, went through the steps of making origami. This is a skill in which paper is cut to produce a finely detailed design.

The last thing set up at the Japan table was a tea set.

Kuwabara said the Japanese drink "a lot of green tea, which is bitter not sweet."

"Canadians add sugar to it, so it's not bitter, but we don't do that."

Winson Wang, 28, of Hong Kong, had different kinds of Chinese tea displayed.

He had Pu-li, China Green tea, Jasmine, Oolong, China Black tea and Tikuanyin.

"Tikuanyin is the best one. (It's) *good for your health, (but) expensive.*"

He said the most popular is Oolong, and "a lot" of Canadians drink China Green tea.

Also on his table he had the Hong Hong dollar, a Chinese cookbook, and many postcards with some of the tourist spots on them.

Angela Botero, 28, of Colombia, led you on a trip through her country by showing the sightseeing places in a book about Colombia.

Depicted were mountains, deserts, jungles, rivers, archaeological parks and nature reserves.

Botero said many tourists visit Colombia to see these and the Andes Mountains.

She said the country is surrounded by two oceans, and it has "lots of flamingos on the coast."

The "most important" thing in Colombia is the wide variety of food, said Botero, adding they grow "a lot of coffee."

The last booth was from Taiwan.

It had Chinese zodiac key rings, stamps and stress balls, along with tea cups on display.

Lilian Kang, 20, of Taiwan, said the dragons on the side of the tea cups mean "king."

Kang also had a writing brush and ink pad, which she said was used "about 2,000 years ago."

Despite the one-hour limit, many students stopped to hear more about international cultures, and tried their hand at chopsticks, calligraphy and origami.

Some students had their names written in six different languages — *Japanese, Korean, Arabic, Chinese,* Thai and Russian.

Halloween exotic, Choi

By JACKIE FIELD
Staff Writer

It's tradition to remember.

As Halloween rolled around, youngsters went out trick-or-treating, parents handed out candy, and teens went to parties.

On Oct. 30, a day before Halloween, the English as a Second Language (ESL) and international students had their annual Halloween party at After Hours.

As I entered the pub, I knew this would be a party to remember.

The lights were dimmed, and students were lined up at a buffet table set with food from different countries.

There were salads, pizza, bread and dishes from various countries, along with numerous desserts.

Almost everyone was dressed in costumes that ranged from pumpkins, cowboys and scarecrows to witches, clowns and pyjamas.

As the meal ended, it was time for the costumes to be judged.

Music was played and everyone who was dressed in a costume danced while Joanne Klassen and Carolyn Ambrose, two ESL teachers, chose the best costumes.

The best-dressed males were Young Kun Kang, 22, of Korea, who was a cave man, and Soichi Mamiya, 29, of Japan, who was dressed as a female.

The best-dressed females were Eva Chung, 30, of Taiwan, and Naoko Maekawa, 28, of Japan.

After the contest, students lined up on stage for a limbo contest.

Mimi Choi, 26, and Youngkun Kang, 23, both from South Korea, enjoy the international Halloween party on Oct. 30 **Photo by Mun-Hee Shin**

With the music on, students were "seeing how low they could go."

The winners of the contest were Kang, and Miho Asada, 22, of Japan.

All winners and runnersup received t-shirts and CDs.

There was also a pumpkin contest for best-carved pumpkin. Dancing followed the contests' conclusion.

Mimi Choi, 26, of Korea, in the Public Relations (Post-Graduate) program, said this is her second time celebrating Halloween.

When she first arrived in Canada it was Oct. 30, and she said she went to the bank and saw the bank tellers all dressed up and wondered why, adding this is a "new experience."

"We don't have this day. (It's) exotic."

The party should be for everyone, said Choi, adding that "if other than international students were here, we could learn more about Halloween and the customs. (I) wish anyone could go."

Choi said the different kinds of costumes were interesting.

Hibiki Iida, a second-year student in the Recreation and Leisure Services program, who dressed as a joker, said he likes looking at other people's costumes.

He said this is his fifth time celebrating Halloween because in Japan they didn't "celebrate it."

Graduate sooner

By CHRISTINE MORGAN
Staff Writer

It's a city known the around the world for its sandy beaches and national parks. Need another hint?

It's the largest and oldest city in the eastern sector of its country.

It's Sydney, Australia.

Hundreds of Canadians have earned a degree in just one year at the University of Western Sydney Nepean (UWS), says representative, Ron Kelly.

The university allows Canadian students to complete an undergraduate or master's degree in the least possible time, he says.

Normally a degree in Ontario would require three years of study to complete. Students may receive up to two years advanced credit.

When a student applies to the VWS Nepean with a Canadian college diploma, the university will decide the subjects most associated with the degree in question. This allows the student to advance up to two years ahead of normal schedule.

"All degrees are marketable," says Kelly.

The VWS Nepean is aimed towards the job spectrum and since 1990, more than 500 Ontario students have earned their undergraduate or master's degree there.

Nepean offers degrees in commerce, education, humanities and social sciences, performance, fine art and design, nursing and health studies, law, engineering and science and technology.

In short, an Ontario college graduate may gain a degree in one year or a master's in two while enjoying the "land down under."

Each year costs about $20,000 Canadian. The price includes tuition, living expenses and with a visa the student can work in Australia.

Feature

Rwanda, Bosnia, Kosovo — killing fields of innocents

By ROBIN MORAIS
Staff Writer

Power brings with it responsibility, a point seemingly lost by leaders of Western powers.

They failed when it mattered to demonstrate moral responsibility by using military might to protect helpless civilians from ethnic cleansing in Europe and Africa.

Since the end of the Cold War, Western policy makers, politicians and military leaders have exhibited an indifferent attitude to helping people who are being savagely slaughtered by brutal criminals disguised as soldiers and led by war criminals.

Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo are glaring examples of places on the globe in which hundreds of thousands of innocent people have been murdered by Hutu extremists and Serb paramilitary, military and police forces, and the West has just stood by.

Apparently, these areas don't fit the right criteria to receive Western military assistance. They are of no economic benefit or strategic interest to the Western powers.

They lack vital natural fuel resources and are not strategically located.

However, when it came to bloodying Saddam Hussein's nose during the Gulf War in January 1991, the West organized a massive, United Nations-backed international coalition force in quick time which kicked the Iraqi army under the command of the "The Butcher of Baghdad" clear out of the small, oil-rich state of Kuwait.

The Western air forces also bombed Iraq mercilessly with thousands of bombs and killed many innocent Iraqi civilians, but they failed to kill Hussein.

Then, Iraq was threatening the oil pipelines of Saudi Arabia, vital to the economic survival of North America, Western Europe and Japan. Iraq and Saudi Arabia are strategically located in the Middle East.

However, when the cries for help from Bosnia, Rwanda and more recently, Kosovo, began echoing in the West, these governments largely ignored the needs of the innocent people who were being tortured, raped and murdered daily.

They used the flimsy excuse to their electorate and the rest of the world that the problems of these folks from these places weren't their concern.

Or they said that those various peoples always hated each other and they'd been killing themselves for hundreds of years.

And when the Western media corporations highlighted the atrocities and human rights abuses being committed against them, these so-called leaders made a half-hearted attempt to do something by ordering their air forces to drop food and medical supplies to the shell-shocked refugees.

A case in point was in Bosnia when, at the height of the war, the American airforce dumped boxes of food and medical goods to the beleagured Bosnian Muslims but they were being shot down by Serbian marksmen as they went to collect these supplies.

What sense did that make when they were being systematically slaughtered anyway by war criminals who knew the West wouldn't militarily punish them for doing it.

The west should've realized that you cannot negotiate with criminals like Slobodan Milosevic and the leaders of the Hutu mobs who butchered scores of Tutsis.

Men like these understand force is the only way to gain control.

The unfortunate truth for many states as a result of what has occurred in Rwanda, Bosnia and Kosovo is that they can't depend on getting help from the western military powers in their hour of need.

My country of Trinidad and Tobago, a tiny English-speaking Caribbean nation just off the coast of Venezuela, has been coveted by the large South American country for over 200 hundred years.

Venezuela's military cadets are taught that Trinidad and Tobago and half of another Caribbean country on the South American continent, Guyana, belongs to them. That's disturbing because Venezuelan democracy is not very strong and their military still has great influence in how the country is governed.

There's always a strong likelihood that a pro-military, extreme nationalist Venezuelan leader could be elected into office or seize power by the gun. He may decide that its time to pursue this idea if enlarging Venezuela by force of arms.

Venezuela is a military giant on the South American continent.

With the Venezuelan economy crumbling daily, its leadership could beconme desperate enough to attack and annex those rich West Indian countries which could be of benefit to the sickly Venezuelan economy.

Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana are rich in oil deposits and have well-developed oil industries.

America and her other western allies might not want to military action against Venezuela because they are one of the biggest exporters of oil to the U.S.A., so why would they want to jeopardize their economic health by militarily intervening in the Caribbean?

The Republican-dominated American Congress wouldn't be to keen on committing American forces to fight for the freedom of West Indian people in the face of Venezuelan aggression.

The post-Cold War world is still a very dangerous and uncertain place, especially when the western allies don't stand up to international bullies when its not in their economic or strategic interest to do so.

Remembrance Day has special importance

By ROBIN MORAIS
Staff Writer

Remembrance Day is a time to recall the brave souls who gave their lives fighting for freedom.

However, many North Americans are unaware hundreds of thousands of men from other countries fought and died during the Second World War for the ideal of human liberty by taking up arms against the tyranny and evil of Nazism.

Many of these men came from Africa and Asia and fought with great bravery for the ideals they believed in.

The Gurkhas from India were, for example, outstanding warriors fighting against the German and Japanese forces during the Second World War.

The war was from September 1939 to August 1945 and finally ended with the American atomic bombing of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Some of the Gurkhas, posthumously, won the prestigious Victoria Cross (VC), the highest military medal given to a member of the British Commonwealth armed forces.It was often considered one of the highest military honors in the world.

However, it's a little known fact that thousands of Caribbean servicemen also fought with distinction.

The West Indian islands during the war years were colonies belonging to the different European empires in the Caribbean, such as England, France, Spain and Holland.

The British West Indian colonies were composed of Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Barbados, Antigua, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, St. Kitts, Grenada and Guyana.

Consequently, when Britain declared war against Nazi Germany after its invasion of Poland in the fall of 1939, these West Indian men were eligible to enlist in the British or Canadian armed forces. And they did, in droves.

An outstanding West Indian soldier who fought with tremendous courage in that terrible war was Carlton Gardier.

He was a Canadian infantryman highly decorated by his superior officers for bravery under fire during the Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied France in the summer of 1944.

Some of the medals he won were the Defence Medal, the France and Germany Star and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp.

He was attached to the Canadian Engineer Reinforcement Unit, part of the Canadian 1st Army.

Of note is one combat experience in which he displayed exemplary courage. He and his company section had to replenish ammunition for Allied artillery batteries coming under heavy German fire.

The Germans were trying to encircle the Allied forces and destroy them.

He took charge of his men and led them through hellish crossfire to the Allied big guns.

Thanks to his brave leadership and the courage of his men, the Allied soldiers beat back the Nazi German attack.

There were several reasons they decided to enlist and fight in the Second World War. First, they didn't like what Adolf Hitler and his racist Nazi government stood for, and they realized the only way to stop him was through military force.

Also, they knew that if the Nazis had won the war and finished annihilating the Jews, Gypsies and Slavic peoples of Europe, it was only a matter of time before they would have started killing the non-white peoples of the world.

One of the major philosophies of the Nazis was the superiority of the white Aryan race over all other races, especially against the Jews and blacks. Thus, black Caribbean men had to wage war against the Nazis as a matter of survival.

Unfortunately, at that time many West Indian males were not able to receive an education unless they came from wealthy families or their relatives had a lot of political influence in colonial island society.

Enlisting in the British or Canadian armies provided West Indian men with an opportunity to better their lives by being able to receive a proper technical education in the forces. Many of them learned such skills as auto mechanics and aircraft maintenance by repairing trucks, cars, tanks and planes.

These skills helped them to establish their own auto repair businesses in the West Indies when they returned home at the end of the war.

Some of them became the first commercial pilots in the regional airlines created after the war.

That's if they survived.

Many didn't.

By enlisting, Caribbean men were presented with the chance to travel, albeit under combat circumstances, and to acquire a more worldly view.

When the Second World War ended in the summer of 1945, the surviving West Indian veterans went home with renewed confidence and greater determination to rid the West Indies of European colonialism.

Eventually, they and other West Indian patriots were able to peacefully achieve this goal.

Women played important role in war effort

By RACHEL CZIFRA
Staff Writer

Women put down their dish rags and clothes pins in 1939 when they picked up the responsibility to support the troops in the Second World War.

On Wednesday, Nov. 11, Margaret Waite, now 74, stood around a lowered flagpole with the other men and women of the Royal Canadian Legion, at 383 Morningstar Rd., Welland, remembering her experience in the war.

At the memorial, during the moment of silence she said she remembered the bombings Europe received while she was stationed there. She remembered the sense of importance and responsibility she felt when being trained for the Auxiliary Territory Services, in anti-aircraft radar stations.

At the onset of the Second World War, when women either joined the armed forces doing everything from nursing to putting out ground fires, or they chose to work in ammunition factories, 18-year-old Waite left her small town in England to join the Auxiliary Territory Services.

"Everyone had to do something," she said.

Her youngest sister, who had a child and a husband, went to work selling tickets on the buses. Her oldest sister joined the army.

It was just as hard for the women that stayed home as it was for those who joined the war, she said.

She worked with other young women calculating the distance and location of enemy planes. The older men stationed with them, usually too old or incapable of working on the fields, shot the planes down.

During the four years she worked in the war, she was stationed in England, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

"I quite enjoyed it. There was rough times but there were also good times."

She said she didn't suffer any side effects common to veterans. When the war ended, she stayed in a small town in Belgium with the man she ended up marrying.

Women have fought a long hard battle to be considered equal.

"Women moved a lot in the war years, from staying home in the kitchen to being a part of the war."

Feature

Aboriginal Canadians paid ultimate price

By ELISABETH IRWIN
Staff Writer

Hundreds volunteered

"We're proud of the word 'volunteer.' Nobody forced us, we were good Canadians—patriots—we fought for our country."

—Syd Moore, Second World War veteran

Hundreds of aboriginals paid the ultimate price for peace and freedom during wartime. It wasn't until 1997 that recognition for their wartime efforts was officially displayed with a cenotaph on Parliament Hill.

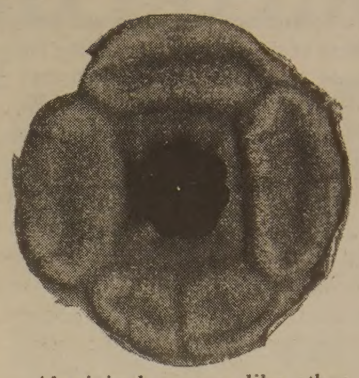
Aboriginal Canadians served in South Africa during the Boer War in 1902 and enlisted by the thousands for wars to follow.

More than 4,000 Canadian aboriginals left their homes and families to serve in the First World War. Proportionately, one in three able-bodied men who volunteered to join Allied forces in European battlefields was aboriginal.

Trench warfare, poison gas and machine-guns almost destroyed a generation of young Canadian men. Three hundred of those were aboriginal soldiers.

Illness, particularly tuberculosis, thrived in the damp trenches of Europe and many aboriginal returned home with the onset of the often-fatal disease.

Canadian aboriginals participated and earned medals for valour in every major land battle. They also supported the Allied cause at home, donating money and goods to various relief and patriotic funds and investing in Victory Bonds. Donations from aboriginals totalled more than $44,000.



Aboriginal women, like other Canadian women, formed patriotic leagues, Red Cross societies and collected clothes, money and food for shipment overseas.

In October 1919, the Prince of Wales visited the Brantford area and presented the Six Nations with a bronze tablet to commemorate the 88 members killed in action.

For the second time in history, the nation's aboriginal community responded quickly when Canada declared war on Germany, Sept. 10, 1939.

More than 200 Canadian aboriginal soldiers lost their lives during the Second World War. They earned a minimum of 17 decorations for bravery in action. Aboriginals actively contributed to the war effort on the home front as they did in previous wars.

In 1943, King George VI showed his appreciation by awarding British Empire Medals to the chiefs of Ontario's Nicikousemenecaning Band (formerly called the Red Gut Band), British Columbia's Kitkatla Band, Manitoba's Norway House Band and the Vuntut Gwitchin Band.

More than $23,000 was donated from Canadian aboriginal bands. Once again, the efforts of Canadian aboriginals at home and abroad reinforced traditions of sacrifice and achievement in wartime.

Hundreds of them volunteered to defend South Korea during the Korean War. It is not known how many aboriginals were killed in action in Korea.

Aboriginal Canadian veterans have reason to be proud. More than 7,000 aboriginals served in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War, including an unknown number of Inuit, Metis and other aboriginals. One group estimates that 12,000 aboriginals served in the three wars.

On each occasion, these soldiers overcame cultural challenges and made impressive sacrifices and contributions to help the nation in its efforts to restore world peace — consistent with a remarkable tradition.

Native GIS program allows exploration

By ELISABETH IRWIN
Staff Writer

The Aboriginal Education Access Office at Niagara College's Welland campus was developed for all aboriginal students and anyone wishing to learn more about aboriginal culture and heritage.

"We need to identify the native students who are here. Some have not identified themselves because they don't know about the centre," says Sheri A. Longboat, assistant manager of the Aboriginal Education Access Office (commonly referred to as the centre).

Opened in 1991, the centre has since expanded offering more services to students. Students come from diverse backgrounds such as Iroquois, Ojibway, Cree and Metis. This combination enables students to acknowledge and respect all cultures.

The centre provides cultural services and a supportive environment to aboriginal students, says Longboat. These services include cultural workshops, social and recreational activities and a resource library.

Niagara College and the aboriginal communities established the Aboriginal Education Management Circle (AEMC), which operates under the following mission: The AEMC is committed to address the spectrum of components comprising aboriginal education to ensure "the seven generations hereafter of our People" will have aboriginal culturally appropriate and controlled education available to them in true partnership with Niagara College.

Native Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a computer-based tool for mapping and analyzing things that exist and events that happen on earth. It uses computer technology to store, manage, manipulate, analyze and displav database information of full-colour, digitized maps, which can plot housing, membership, land-claims research, eco-tourism development, road maintenance, and emergency and essential services.

The native GIS program allows students to explore a dynamic and growing field. GIS has quickly become an integral part of information management in the private and public sectors. Graduates will possess the expertise to undertake and implement a wide range of GIS projects from the local to corporate levels worldwide.

The increased use of GIS for retail and marketing applications is just one area of industry growth.

The Eagle's Cry is a new Decision Support and Land Research Information and Analysis System for client server environments. It consists of a desktop geographical information system, a cadastral linkage system and a document researching and land claim authorizing system.

The Eagle's Cry uses GIS principles in a modular-based technique where layer upon layer of data can be applied to land, utilizing inexpensive equipment and existing software in a user-friendly fashion.

By providing an intuitive, complete multimedia user interface, it automates and integrates each of the five key elements of effective decision support for land management: maps, data, methodology, models and sensors.

The Aboriginal Student Council (ASC) was formed in 1995 to address the needs of the aboriginal student body.

Two students are selected each year. One is the ASC representative and one is the designated alternate. The ASC representative attends AEMC meetings and passes along pertinent information. The representative must also attend Student Administrative Council meetings.

To date, "the centre is working on finding a representative," says Longboat.

The ASC is committed to addressing students' concerns regarding aboriginal education.

These are some of the services available from the Meeting Place at S102B:

- computer lab specifically for aboriginal students use
- Elder support service
- workshop and class presentations on aboriginal cultural awareness and learning
- student advocacy — i.e. college structure, policies, procedures, faculty relationships
- library of aboriginal resource materials
- study area/lounge
- aboriginal peer tutoring
- guidance, support and advice.

For more information call 735-2211, ext. 7414 or visit S102B.

Sheri Longboat welcome addition

By ELISABETH IRWIN
Staff Writer

'Primarily our program is for Indian land management.'

—Sheri Longboat

Sheri A. Longboat, the interim assistant manager in the Aboriginal Education Access Office (more commonly known as the centre) at Niagara College's Welland campus, says she'd like to take the skills she has developed and lend them to the centre.

Longboat, 28, also co-ordinates (along with Wendy Johnson Martin) the Native Geographic Information Systems (GIS), which has been developed in partnership with Niagara College, Grand River Polytechnic, near Brantford, and the company Six Nations Geo Systems.

"Native GIS is computerized land-management technology for Indian lands," says Longboat. "Primarily our program is for Indian land management."

Longboat says working at Polytechnic gives her an opportunity to work with students on a day-to-day basis at a community level.

"Knowing their needs and knowing what they want to learn is often not the same as some of the programs being offered. Not to say that the academics of the programs are not important, but there's got to be a way of bridging that cultural gap."

SHERI LONGBOAT

Longboat started her position at Niagara on Oct. 5.

She says she's just getting to know the students at the centre.

"I've got quite a bit of experience in dealing with different departments," says Longboat. "It's really successful. We've got three students from the Yukon in this program, one from British Columbia and nine from Six Nations."

She travels between Polytechnic and Niagara. "I like new challenges always, I like to be busy, I love learning."

Longboat lives in Hamilton, and is a Six Nations registered band member.

Her educational background includes a four-year double major at the University of Waterloo in Environment Research Studies and Geography. She earned her geography master of arts specializing in coastal management at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo. She did research for one year and her bachelor of education studies at the Brock University satellite campus in Dundas.

"I was the administrator and education co-ordinator at Six Nations Geo Systems and when this partnership developed I moved on to Polytechnic to co-ordinate the program, and now I'm here."

Longboat says she was "lucky enough" to go through school and succeed.

She says she has gained a lot of knowledge and would like to transfer some of that knowledge to others.

As for personal goals, Longboat says she hopes "to get into a position where I can use what background I have developed, apply that efficiently and learn some new things along the way."

For the centre's future, she says her goal is "to start offering more aboriginal-sensitive programs, to really take into account what the students need."

Editorial

Niagara News

The **Niagara News** is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Welland, Ont. L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 736-6005.

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Harris's campaign attacks

Ontario's Premier Mike Harris has decided to publicly embarrass one of his opponents, provincial Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty's plans on healthcare, education and same sex benefits.

Harris intends to do this through pamphlets, letters, newspaper advertisements and television commercials. All of these will be paid for by the taxpayers of Ontario.

McGuinty, who has yet to state any definite plans concerning the above issues, will no doubt benefit from Harris's attack, but tactics such as Harris's do not sit well with the public.

A case in point is the recent elections in the United States. Newt Gingrich went on an all-out campaign against President Bill Clinton. As we know, it resulted with Gingrich resigning as leader of the House of Representatives.

McGuinty is not that well known by the general public and if anything, Harris's attack will raise McGuinty's profile. Does Harris want McGuinty's profile raised? Does he want McGuinty's name to become a household word? Does he want McGuinty's policies made public? If so, why?

We understand Harris's need to deflect public anger from himself. His recent announcement that no schools will close is proof that public protest is effective and should be continued. His transparent laying of blame on the Board of Education is not working.

Voters have learned not to trust much of what the premier says or does.

Elisabeth Irwin

Homeless need our help

Homelessness is a major issue that requires immediate attention.

As we enter the winter season, many homeless will die as a result of the below-zero temperatures.

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman has invited Prime Minister Jean Chretien to view the situation in Toronto first-hand.

Instead Chretien will wait till January to study a $300,000 report on the issue.

Instead of taking action or spending the $300,000 on more relevant uses, Chretien will stand by and watch as the homeless die.

Perhaps we should open the gates of 24 Sussex Drive for our homeless rather than dignitaries and political guests.

By no means are we letting the other politicians off the hook as it is also their responsibilty to target the issue. By Mike Harris's cutting of social programs he has contributed to the problem.

Together it is all of our responsibilty to do what we can to help each other in a time of need.

Aaron Beaudoin

Human rights withheld from Eastern Baha'is

By RACHEL CZIFRA
Staff Writer

Imagine for a moment the government authorities charging into your classroom and arresting your teachers, classmates and you, because of your religious beliefs.

Fifty years ago the United Nations signed the Declaration of Human Rights. However, this hasn't prevented some people in authority from stripping minorities of the most basic human rights.

Since 1978, 200 Baha'is, members of a religious minority with more than six million members worldwide, have been martyred in Iran.

In 1991, Ayatollah Ali Khameini, the president of Iran, signed a document stating "the government's dealing with them, the Baha'is, must be in such a way that their progress and development are blocked."

In early October, in accordance with the document, government officials raided 530 Baha'i homes, arrested 36 school teachers and left the 900 students of the Baha'i Institution of Higher Learning without means of attaining an education.

Currently, the 300,000 Baha'is are not only denied education but ar also denied jobs and positions of authority. Their marriages are considered illegal and their children illegitimate.

They are denied the right to inherit anything and to elect members of their administrative body. They are refused Baha'i burial services and buried in unmarked wastelands.

The Baha'i Faith, which the UN recognizes as an independent religion, is rooted in the belief of equality of mankind's citizens. However, beginning with its founding in 1844, Iranian authorities have martyred more than 20,000 Baha'is.

Baha'is believe in progressive revelation, that throughout history God has sent Divine Messengers to educate mankind with their social and spiritual teachings. Baha'u'llah (a Persian word meaning Glory of God) proclaimed in 1853 to be the most recent Manifestation of God, fulfilling the prophecies of past Messengers.

Baha'is believe in the oneness of mankind, the oneness of religion and the oneness of God. Their Holy Writings describe mankind's progress toward the establishment of a Great Peace on Earth.

The steadfast Eastern believers sacrifice their freedoms and their rights and in some cases their lives in order that this Most Great Peace may be realized.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude and my appreciation for a country that recognizes the dignity and enforces the rights of every human being. I hope that one day each of the acts outlined in the Declaration of Human Rights may be not just a theory, but a global reality.

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Speaking Out

Canada needs to do more for its poor

The country has resources to deal with the problem

By LAZARUS NATHANE
Staff Writer

If you've been following the news closely, I'm sure you've noticed the attention the poor are getting in Ontario.

For example, a night of awareness was held on Oct. 17 in Montebello Park in St. Catharines to raise the public interest in homelessness.

In Toronto, the city council passed a motion declaring the problem in the city and across the country a national disaster.

The city then asked the provincial and federal governments to follow suit.

As someone from a family that for years lived below the poverty line, I'm very pleased to see the influential rolling up their sleeves and standing up for the needy.

Their bold actions, particularly those of Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman, are a good example of unselfishness and self-sacrifice.

The guy is on a campaign to make Toronto the best place to do business. It was remarkable for him to let that issue take a back seat and, instead, added his voice to those advocating for the poor.

Perhaps the mayor, like other rational people, realizes the presence of the needy in our society cannot be ignored or explained away.

Those familiar with the Scriptures know Jesus Christ said the poor will always be among us. (John 12:8)

This is apparent in sub-Sahara Africa where 23 of the world's 36 poorest states are. The average person there lives on less than a dollar a day.

Like those who help in such circumstances, I have deep sympathy for people in adverse situations, especially when the problem is not of their making.

That's because I know how it feels to go to bed with an empty stomach and spend the next several days or nights that way. Worst of all, I know how it feels not to have a place to call home.

Those are the events, during their occurrence, that make you wish you were somewhere different, given the body is not used to being deprived of food, clothing and shelter.

It's because of such experiences I feel the Ontario government should do more to help the less fortunate.

The Ontario Coalition Against Poverty says there is a nightly average of 4,700 homeless people in Toronto. About 4,200 of them fill emergency shelters and the rest sleep outdoors.

Several people die every month as a result, and their number is "likely" to increase during winter, says the coalition.

Grant LaFleche, a *St. Catharines Standard* reporter, spent about two days and nights recently to find out how it feels to be penniless and homeless.

LaFleche says in his article life is grim in that situation and there's little to do but wander the streets.

"I can assure you the reality of homelessness is that life doesn't just pass you by. It ignores you altogether," he says.

"There is a loss of independence and dignity that is truly humiliating in having to beg for money."

It's funny because there is no shortage of blame-laying for the difficulties of the poor. This is arguably one of the topics that brings out the worst emotions in people.

For instance, opposition parties at Queen's Park say the problem is worsening because of the "soul-destroying" cuts in welfare and health care by Mike Harris' Progressive Conservative Party.

On the other hand, the Harris government says more jobs have been created, more people are working and the food bank "reported" its usage was down 10 per cent.

Others blame immigrants for anything that is wrong with the country.

However, my support of the cause of the poor is based on a number of reasons other than personal ones.

First, for five consecutive years, the United Nations has ranked Canada as the best place to live. That's a remarkable achievement, given how many countries there are.

By allowing poverty to take root and grow, Canada risks losing such a status and creates a long-term problem for itself.

Second, the country has resources to deal effectively with the problem, especially when the actions are done on humanitarian grounds.

Canada is a privileged and an exceedingly beautiful country. Please keep it that way. It would be the government's deep error to fold its arms and watch as it descends to Third World standards.

Canadian history important for young people

By LEAH FARNAN
Staff Writer

It's apparent Canadians don't display a strong sense of patriotism.

When asked, "What makes a person a Canadian?" most of us are stumped and can only answer, "We're not Americans."

In contrast, our southern neighbours exhibit a great deal of nationalistic pride.

This difference can be directly related to the amount of history the countries' citizens know about their heritage.

Americans know a lot about the history of their nation. Canadians, on the other hand, don't.

This suggests a correlation between history and patriotism. Those people who know a lot about their nation's history will have a stronger sense of patriotism than those who don't.

American youth are expected to know the names of all the states and their capitals, as well as the names of their presidents and in which order they held power.

They are taught American history from an early time in their academic careers and continue to

take American history throughout secondary school.

Canadian youth, however, aren't expected to know very much about the history of our country. We're not taught Canadian history until Grade 7 and are only required to take one year of it in secondary school.

American media put a spotlight on American history. Both films and television programs have themes grounded in American history. Take for example, the movie *Saving Private Ryan* which focuses on American soldiers' exploits in bringing home the sole surviving son of a family.

Canadians don't have a very evident national media industry; therefore, we don't have that tool to use to educate our citizens. As a result, Canadians know more about American history than we do about our own.

Even American politics emphasizes the importance of history. Note the reverence that's put on the American constitution.

The Canadian political system doesn't put a lot of importance on the history of Canada.

Perhaps if Canadians knew more about our history, we wouldn't have so much trouble defining ourselves as something other than not Americans.

Hillary shouldn't be blamed for Bill's problems

By SARA DE TAMBLE
Staff Writer

I'm getting really sick and tired of all the pity President Bill Clinton has been getting because the steamy details of his sex-life have been aired for the world to see.

Yeah, it sucks to be him, but what about Hillary?

What could possibly be worse than a 3,000-page manuscript written like a Jackie Collins novel about your husband's affair with a 21-year-old intern?

What about hearing all the sordid details repeated on the news every night, or made into Saturday Night Live sketches? The poor woman can't even watch Jay Leno anymore.

Hillary has been the biggest supporter of her husband for years. She's been the backbone of his political career, raised his child and even put her own successful law career on hold to help him run for office.

He obviously doesn't appreciate her. She's spent most of their married life helping him get to the top and how does he thank her?

In my mind, there's something very wrong with that picture. She should kick his presidential butt to the curb and rightfully so.

I don't know if Hillary has ever met the Spice Girls, but I think she could use a little shot of Girl Power right about now. A few years ago on television's 60 Minutes, she stated she's not some little woman standing by her man like Tammy Wynette. I hate to point out the obvious, but what does it look like to you?

Of course, it has to be hard to stand up for herself. She can't exactly walk out on the president of the United States.

Through this whole mess, she has remained very dignified, and her husband's biggest supporter. What else can she do?

Hillary is really in a no-win situation. If she stays, she's criticized for being spineless. If she leaves and some major disaster should happen to occur, it would somehow be blamed on her for leaving.

What it all comes down to is that none of the Monica Lewinsky mess can be blamed on anything Hillary has done. She's attractive, witty and intelligent. If her husband can't keep his pants on, that's not her fault.

Secondary reform will impact college

A secondary school reform presentation is slated for Nov. 18 at 12:30 p.m.

The forum, in S209 at the Welland campus, will introduce and explain a new four-year secondary school program which could have significant implications for colleges.

One of the major goals of secondary school reform is to provide students with clear pathways from secondary school to college programs and other post-secondary destinations.

If interested, contact Pat Clay, administrative assistant to Bonnie Rose, vice-president academic, at ext. 7705 as soon as possible.

Politics

Zimmerman downplays higher position

Her closeness to the community is one of the reasons not to run for higher office

By LAZARUS NATHANE
Staff Writer

Niagara Region Chair Debbie Zimmerman is one of southern Ontario's top politicians.

Yet the head of the region's government says she doesn't have an immediate plan to run for higher office.

At a time when political parties are selecting candidates and starting to campaign for the next provincial election, her focus is on the needs of the Niagara community.

"The decision to be involved in provincial politics in not there yet," she says. "I'm not making political decisions to get where I need to go."

She says she looks at her political career within the timeframe of the mandate she has been given.

Her other reasons for not seeking a seat in the provincial parliament include her young family, her closeness to the community and her efforts to effect positive change, she says, adding politics has always been "a labour of love" for her, and being a local politician gives her the opportunity to be close to what happens to people on a day-to-day level.

"One thing that I've always loved by being in contact with the community is knowing there is an opportunity to effect change."

While some say regional government is distant and out of touch with people's needs, one of Zimmerman's goals, she says, is to help to make the municipality responsive.

"That's what local politics is all about. It's grassroots. You get down to the lady who has a problem with a garbage pickup or a development across the street."

"The more time you can spend in it, the more you can see that you can affect change. You can effect how the community develops and how people have access to services."

Zimmerman is a 1975 Niagara College Journalism-Print program graduate. She began her political career in 1978 as an alderman in her home town of Grimsby.

DEBBIE ZIMMERMAN

In 1989 she was appointed to fill a vacant seat on Regional Council and in 1997 Regional councillors elected her Regional Chair by a 15-13 margin.

Her 20 years' experience in municipal politics include working at Queen's Park as an aide to former Liberal MPP for Lincoln Harry Pelissero.

Niagara College professor Michael Collins says, "It's a credit to the college for one of our graduates to be one of Niagara's top political leaders. Her job carries a great deal of importance and prestige."

Asked who influenced her politically, Zimmerman said her parents helped her to develop her interest in politics. She and her five siblings were given the opportunity to debate the issues of the day.

Her love of politics increased after listening to a speech by former Canadian prime minister Pierre Trudeau.

"He was a great statesman and philosopher who had the love for his country. I have tremendous respect for him."

Zimmerman says she spoke with Ontario Premier Mike Harris last month when he was in St. Catharines for the Jobs and Prosperity Conference.

"I've put forward to him what I think the Region of Niagara perspective is and where we need assistance from the provincial government."

The Harris government, she says, has "unfortunately moved way too fast and has taken some of the issues too far."

Her concerns include the provincial government's downloading measures and "the property tax problem which should really be income tax-related."

"Many people feel very emotional about the school issues and the Hotel Dieu Hospital closing in Niagara.

"They are handing us all the social service problems and that's not fair. I think they admit that now they need to consult more with their community partners."

Regarding her political career, she reiterated she's in politics to serve and finds gratification in helping people, no matter how small the problem.

She would consider running for a higher position, she says, when the time is right.

Liberal leader continues to speak against Tories

By ELISABETH IRWIN
Staff Writers

ST. CATHARINES — Ontario Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty was at the Embassy Suites on Oct. 30 for a fund-raising effort and continual tour of the province.

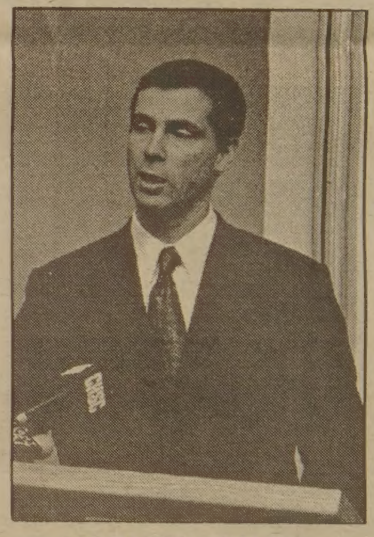
Asked why he had brought his stance on same-sex benefits into the forefront again, he said, "It's something that I spoke about 26 or 27 months ago, the day after I became leader of the party. My commitment appeared on the front page of the *Toronto Star*. It became more topical a few weeks ago because a young man was pistol whipped and subsequently died in the States, so the media came to me and said, 'What's your position on same sex benefits?' So I stated my position again, only this time they decided to report."

As for the Hotel Dieu Hospital closing in St. Catharines, McGuinty says, "The first thing I would do is shut down the hospital closing committee."

He says he would not consider himself bound by any recommendation or decisions made by the restructuring committee.

"What I would do is to be sure that every community has access to quality health care wherever they need it and whenever they need it."

Asked what he was prepared to do when he goes back into session, McGuinty says he won't be spending "$42 million on a political propaganda" campaign, referring to the television ads about education and health care.



DALTON McGUINTY

"The Tories spent $1.7 million for their entire provincial election campaign. Now they're spending $4 million on just one series of television ads. Forty-two million dollars is what they've spent in political partisan advertising so far."

McGuinty says that would keep 161 schools open and buy 20 magnetic resonance imaging machines.

He was not prepared to make a commitment on keeping or re-opening Hotel Dieu until he becomes premier.

Asked about Howard Hampton's (NDP leader) promise to roll back tuition by 10 per cent, McGuinty says his party will make an announcement in due course.

"I'm one of 10 kids. All of us went to university and we never would have been able to do that if tuition fees had been what they are now."

He says, starting next year, a medical degree will cost $88,000 at the University of Toronto.

"It's in our collective interest to address this problem. Post-secondary education should not be reserved for the rich."

He says Ontario should protect itself from the economic turbulence taking place in Asia and spreading here through education.

"Not government, not business, but education."

Reform MP predicts her party's victory in 2001

Preston Manning asked her to run

By AARON BEAUDOIN
Staff Writer

NIAGARA FALLS — Ten years ago a group of Canadians with a vision for a better country formed a political party that would forever change the way politics is decided across Canada.

Deborah Grey, a member of the Reform Party of Canada, had hope for that better country and operated on it.

"I will never be some rickety old lady sitting there in an old folks home playing Scrabble, saying you know I wish I had tried to do something for my country. I'll never feel that way because I think I did try."

Under the party leadership of Preston Manning, Deputy Leader Grey has a strong understanding of why she is a Reformer. "I'm part of the Reform Party because I always thought that as a Canadian that I should be treated and considered equal to everybody else."

She says while on her way to the polling station to cast her first vote, a radio announcement informed her of a Pierre Trudeau majority. Because she had not yet voted, Grey says she then realized the discrepancies in the country. "Ontario and Quebec were the powers and population base in the country and I thought maybe things aren't exactly equal.

"When the Reform Party came along with those very simple policies, they just hit me and I thought that's what I am. I've been a Reformer forever, but nobody put a name on it. It's like I was country when country wasn't cool."

Grey has been involved in the party from the "ground level."

Following the death of an MP-elect in her riding of Beaver River, Alta., just five days after the election, Grey called Manning to ask him to consider her his "warm-up show." After Manning did some reaearch on her, he asked her to consider running in the byelection she says. She was elected MP for Edmonton North and still holds that position today.

Grey says she stands firmly behind Manning for his strong visions and ideals.

"He is a visionary," said Grey. "He knows exactly what it is that this country needs in his vision for it. Give me a leader with a mind and a vision for the country, I'm with him all the way."

Grey said she's confidant the party will form the government in the 2001 federal election. When that happens Grey says the party would like to see changes made.

"One of our main objectives would be to make sure that we get this country fiscally under control. Let's turn this employment insurance surplus back over to the guys that gave it to the government in the first place: the employees and the employers through their premiums.

"Let's not do the banter and the wrangle for another generation that we've seen going on with two full blown separatist parties."

Grey was in the Niagara Region Oct. 29 discussing the party's proposal to merge with the Tories.

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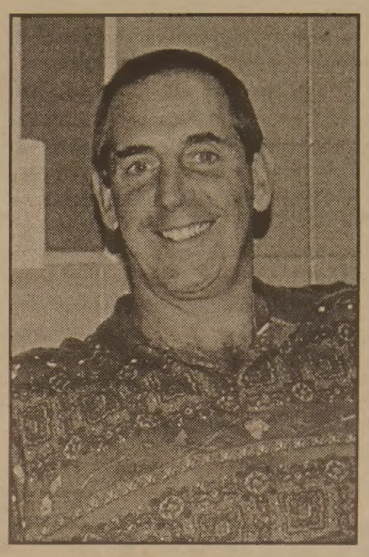
Politics

Students get involved

Tuition has jumped 60 per cent in past three years under Harris, says Charbonneau



MAURICE CHARBONNEAU

By SEAN COFFEY
Staff Writer

What the politicians do affects your future.

If students don't get involved they will have no recourse in impacting on decisions that affect them, said Maurice Charbonneau, 46, the principal of St. Francis Secondary School in St. Catharines and provincial campaign hopeful for the Ontario Liberal party.

"The purpose of getting involved in elections is to put representatives in (parliament) that will respond to your needs."

Charbonneau said he thinks Canadians have been somewhat too passive in voicing their opinions.

"They've just assumed that governments will look after them."

He said he thinks what they are discovering across the globe is a cynicism from the electorate to elected officials.

He said as far as students are concerned, unless they are taking an active role with people who are making the policies, they are going to have a "very difficult time fiscally" in their personal lives.

Charbonneau said he finds the statistics "staggering." In 1997, 25 per cent of bankruptcies in Canada involved student loans compared to one per cent in 1977.

"That alone should motivate students to start to take a stronger look at who are their elected representatives," he said, adding they should look at how these representatives feel about education and what they think of the statistics.

He said if the money students are paying out of their pockets is putting them at financial risk then getting involved with politics is critical.

"It's a personal reason because of the financing, but it's also critical that people who are elected hear what has to be said from the young people."

Tuition has risen 60 per cent in the past three years under the Harris government, he said, adding that graduate school tuitions have been deregulated so universities can charge what they want.

One of the suggestions that students have to put forth is education is an investment in their future and not an expenditure.

"When we treat it as an expenditure students are going to have the financial difficulties that they are having now in terms of bankruptcies," said Charbonneau.

Students have to take a "greater stand" in communicating their difficulties to future generations and younger kids who are in elementary and secondary school now, if they are to have a hope of getting an education at the post-secondary or university level, he said.

Ontario's tuition is second highest in Canada and is surpassed only by Nova Scotia, he said.

What's happening now in education is "we're getting a raw deal" because people haven't spoken up, he said.

"You take what you get because you haven't had the courage to stand up and say, 'that's not right.'"

College and university students sometimes lose sight of reality and become "cocooned" in the three or four years they are in school, he said.

"A lot of it, I believe, is that people go to school and are not focused on what's going on out there," he said, adding they become "tunnel visioned."

"I think the challenge of the student association (Student Administrative Council) at Niagara College is to start to paint the picture of what's going on out there."

He said students need someone who is courageous and will stand up and say, "Folks, let's take a look at what's going on here."

"I would say as an educator the responsibility of the student government is to clearly point out what's coming down the road," said Charbonneau.

The statistics show students are going to have an "exceptionally" hard time after graduation.

"They better start doing something about it now, because it's going to be too late after you graduate."

Jamie Ebsary is president of the Student Administrative Council (SAC) at the college's Welland campus.

"It comes down to the college's policy on politics," said Ebsary, 20, of Hamilton.

She said SAC is not allowed to display posters which convey a political message, according to SAC's policy on poster procedures.

However, Ebsary said she thinks students should take an interest because it's their money being spent.

"I do believe that students should have a say."

Emergency plan causes debate

By LAZARUS NATHANE
Staff Writer

THOROLD — The Niagara Region's plan to centralize emergency dispatch facilities serving Niagara's 12 municipalities has run into opposition.

The plan would put the area's four dispatch facilities and three agencies under one roof.

Two of the facilities, located in St. Catharines and Niagara Falls, are for fire. The other two, in Thorold and St. Catharines, are for public works and the Niagara Regional Police Service.

St. Catharines Fire Chief Bob Rupert, an opponent of the plan, says his opposition is based on the experience in Thunder Bay. Its facility is combined and the fire department there says it doesn't recommend such a set up.

"I believe that's not the way to go," he says. "Police language on the radio is different than ours. It hasn't been proven to me either that having three agencies under one roof would be more economical and efficient."

Instead, Rupert says he favours separate dispatch facilities for the police and the fire in the region to back each other up in the event of a crisis.

"What do we do if there is a severe storm, a bomb or terrorist threat? I think separate facilities will deal better with those type of situations."

He says his other concern is the "apparent" time difference between a separate and combined facility.

The dispatch time, he says, is the time between answering an incoming 911 emergency call and the sounding of the fire alarm bells.

"In St. Catharines, the average is 30 seconds."

However, he says his tour of a combined facility serving Monroe County in Rochester, N.Y. , showed the average response time to be one and a half minutes longer.

Wayne Gilroy, the Region's properties officer and one of the plan co-ordinators, says two minutes could be an average time if it's measured from answering an incoming call to when the fire truck leaves the building.

The advantage of three agencies operating within the same facilities, he says, will be increased co-operation and easier coordination.

"By centralizing the dispatch function, costs of duplication can be reduced or eliminated," he says. "The facility will be economical in terms of its equipment, the new radio system and its manning for 24 hours."

Asked to speculate why Chief Rupert opposes some of his committee's recommendations, he said he can't speak on the chief's behalf.

However, he agrees it could be that St. Catharines wants to run a fire dispatch agency for the region's 12 municipalities. It's a service it provides to all but Niagara Falls and Lincoln at a gain of about $300,000 a year.

Gilroy's communications steering committee is an independent body of representatives from the area's 12 fire departments, the regional police and the region's public works department.

The committee began its work toward a single, Region-wide central dispatch facility in September 1996, and is expected to submit a final proposal to the regional council in early 1999.

Gilroy says the cost of the new facility's site building, towers, satellite dishes, a 900 megahertz radio system to replace the existing equipment, could be about $17 million.

Niagara-on-the-Lake Fire Chief Bruce Little, a proponent of the plan, says the current system began in the 1970s to serve only one city and needs to be updated.

The central facility is expected to be in use by January 2000 if the plan is implemented.

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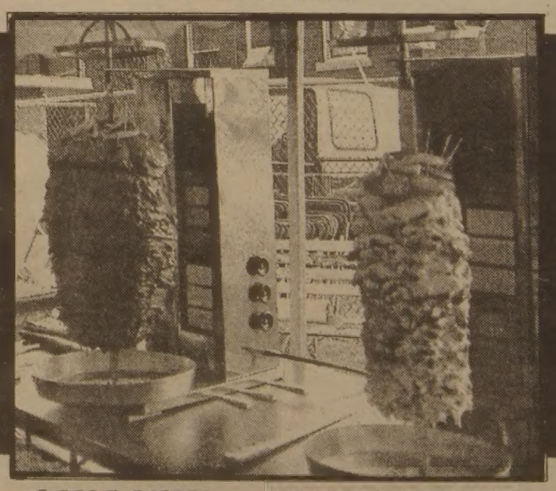
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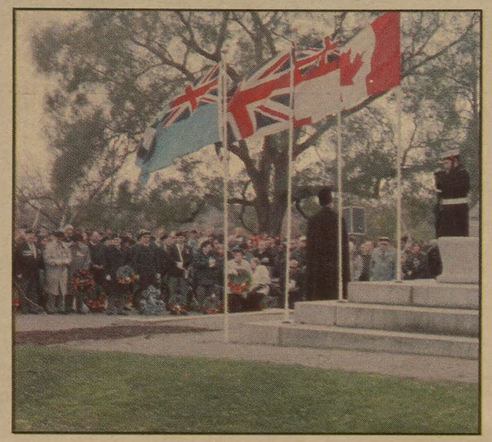

First World War
Second World War
Korean War
Gulf War
Peacekeeping

Photos by -
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Profiles

Wallin rebounds from CBC setback

By ROSEMARY BARTLETT
Staff Writer

PORT COLBORNE — Coming from a successful launch of her memoirs in her home town of Wadena, Sask., Pamela Wallin made a stop in her book tour at the Roselawn Complex in Port Colborne on Nov. 4.

Speaking before 300 patrons of the Grant Thornton Canadian Authors Series, Wallin, 45, is promoting her autobiography, *Since You Asked*.

She says the book is an answer to the many questions, letters and telephone calls she's had throughout the years from viewers, readers and listeners who are curious about "this and that."

Wallin's career in radio, print and television has spanned nearly 25 years with an impressive list of achievements. She became a producer of CBC's *As It Happens* in 1977, a reporter on Parliament Hill for the Ottawa bureau of the *Toronto Star* in 1979 and co-host of CTV's *Canada AM* with Norm Perry in 1981.

She was the first woman to be appointed Ottawa bureau chief on network television by CBC in 1985 and was the host of CBC's *Prime Time Live* until she was fired in 1995.

Wallin reinvented herself and now produces and hosts her own television show, *Pamela Wallin*, through her production company, Current Affairs Group. Her show can be seen at 1 p.m. weekdays on CBC's *Newsworld*.

Of her journey visiting the past, Wallin says, "Turning one's own curiosity and questioning inward is perhaps the most difficult and riskiest endeavour I have ever embarked upon."

She says she credits her success with her "moral compass" that came from growing up in a family and community where "people still matter."

"It's always a refreshing reality check," she says of her return visits to her home town where there are "no homeless because everybody belongs to somebody."

"Wadena is not just a town. It is a state of mind for me, and seldom a day goes by that I don't reference Wadena when I think about a story and say, 'How would that play in Wadena? Would that really matter?'"

She says she was "thankful for that moral compass and that moral centre" when she had to face "some difficult times." Difficult times came for Wallin when she was fired from CBC's *Prime Time Live* "in the public eye."

"There I was at 40-something, divorced, no savings, no stocks — because that would be a conflict of interest for a journalist to invest in a company you are reporting on — no pension plan, no health plan and a rather substantial mortgage on a home in downtown Toronto."

She says she found herself out of a job at the same time thousands of others were being "downsized," adding she was "starting to see and sense and experience fear — the fear of change, the fear of personal security and the fear about the future."

Broken loyalties, rapid technological changes, increased computer capabilities, Internet and the marriage of the computer with the television screen are all working together to re-define the meaning of community, says Wallin.

"Technology is making us a nation of loners where local imperatives seem to disappear."

She says the face-to-face conversations about local issues that took place at the post office or the hardware store have been replaced by the "vicarious gleaning from talk shows that encourage us all to carry (local issues) on our sleeve without maintaining responsibility."

As the millennium approaches, Wallin says, "we have to return to that cliche of thinking globally but acting locally."

She says stories of "true spirit and generosity" restore her faith in humanity, as do simple acts of human kindness such as delivering a meal to an elderly neighbour.

"Keeping in tune to one's moral compass is the only way to have the courage of your convictions and to survive in a highly competitive and sometimes very unfriendly world of work."

Pamela Wallin autographs copies of her book at the Roselawn Complex.

Photo by Rosemary Bartlett

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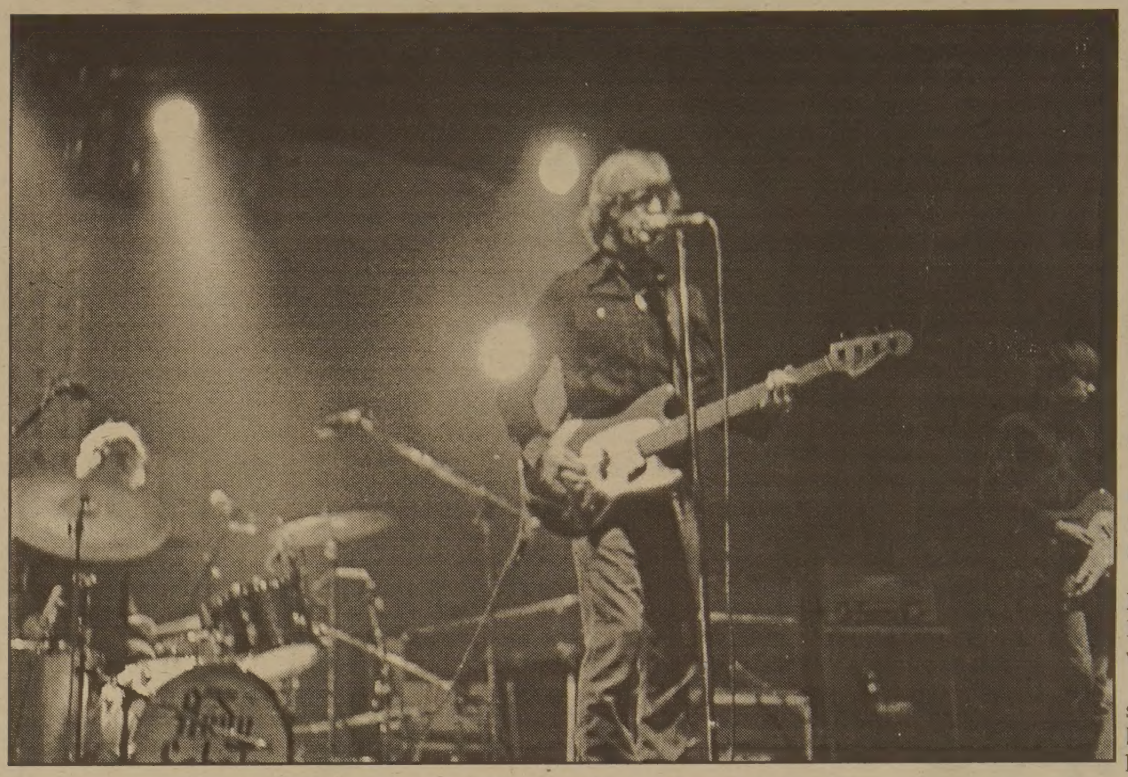
Entertainment

Sloan rocks huge crowd at Niagara Dome

Band starts Canadian tour



Sloan's Chris Murphy performing at Niagara Dome.

Photo by Jodi Gierling

By LISA HEYDON
Staff Writer

Sloan has set off for its Canadian tour dates with the release of the its fourth album.

Sloan is touring various parts of Ontario throughout October and November. This year, Sloan will be playing in Japan for the first time. Lead singer Chris Murphy says sarcastically it is the band's dream to be "huge stars in Japan."

The band eventually made it back to the Niagara region for a show in St. Catharines. The concert was held Oct. 30 at the Niagara Dome with opening act Rufus Wainwright.

Sloan, originally from Halifax N.S., relocated to Toronto, a move which accounts for the numerous dates in Ontario.

Sloan has become a hit in Canadian music in the past six years, but its influence has not yet reached past the border.

Although the band has relocated, Murphy reaffirms its roots are in Halifax. "We're not just another working band from Toronto."

Sloan consists of "four distinct song writers": Murphy, Patrick Pentland, Andrew Scott, and Jay Ferguson. Each member brings the best material to the band, says Murphy. Then the group decides what will make the album. In the case of **Navy Blues**, Murphy says he wanted 12 songs but the argument was 13.

Navy Blues has faced some criticism about the album's obvious similarities with the Beatle's Abbey Road. Murphy says he admits "there are three good, solid Abbey Road ripoffs," adding it was "nothing intentional, it basically happens."

Because Sloan is on its own label, Murderecords, the band is initially its own boss, so the band "can't blame or credit anyone else."

"It has complete creative control," says Murphy, including the directing of its videos.

With Murphy's background in film direction from art school, and help from his girlfriend who is in the industry, the members are able to produce videos.

The expense of putting out videos drains the amount of money Sloan is actually pulling in, says Murphy. He compares the amount of money the band makes to that of a highly paid nurse.

Although the band prefers to cater its shows to clubs rather than arenas, Murphy says he would be lying if he said Sloan didn't care about success.

Cameron receives honourary degree

By AMY KAAL
Staff Writer

It was an occasion for respect.

Two noted contributors to culture received honourary degrees from Brock University in St. Catharines Oct. 17.

James Cameron and Austin C. Clarke attended a press conference prior to the ceremony.

Cameron, from Chippawa, who directed the epic movie Titanic, says he likes to create characters the audience can respect.

Cameron spoke about his future endeavours. He says he's working with a television company to produce a one-hour drama series expected to air nationally next fall.

Cameron says he's also cultivating a "few small movie" ideas. He's "considering" doing a re-make of the Planet of the Apes movie. As to whether he's buying the rights to Spiderman, Cameron says, "not yet."

Cameron says he wanted to tell students, with whom he was receiving his degree, it's "good for them to be active in community affairs."

Clarke, recognized for his contribution to literature and multiculturalism, said he was "very proud" to receive the honourary degree. He said he plans to treat the degree with respect.

Clarke is a four-time recipient of the Canada Council Literature Award for Fiction and in 1992 was the winner of the Toronto Arts Awrad for Writing and Publishing. Clarke was an advisor for the leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party from 1987 to 1992.

Clarke is revising a cookbook and a novel to be published yearly next year.

Money problems ahead for Scorpios

By SARA DE TAMBLE
Staff Writer

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) — You have a close friend of the opposite sex who wants to bring your relationship to a different level. You have feelings for this person, but one of you is going to have to make a move. Go for it. You're only young once.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) — A new relationship is working out better than either of you expected. The sparks are flying and there's no way the flame will go out anytime soon. This one's a keeper.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) — Put away the mirror. It's time you started focusing on something other than yourself. There's a whole big universe out there and despite how you've been acting this fall you're not the centre of it. Ask other people their opinions for once. You'll be surprised at what they tell you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) — Spend time relaxing with friends and just having fun. Good news will come in the mail — maybe a letter from a long-lost friend or secret admirer. Either way it will bring a smile to your face.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) — Remember to keep in touch with friends from your past. If you hate writing letters, use some of your hard earned beer-money for a phone call or two. A lunch date will bring unexpected closure to a situation you've been worrying about.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) — Someone has something important to tell you, but you're going to have to read between the lines. There's something important they're not telling you. Go for a walk in the sunshine to relieve stress. You've had a lot of it lately.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) — You might be entering into a commitment for the wrong reasons. Think it through from both sides. Is this really what you want? It's never too late to change your mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) — An old friend needs you now more than ever. Just be there to listen or lend out your shoulder to cry

on. A family member will ask to borrow money.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) — You have a so-called friend who is a compulsive liar. Not only has he lied to you about other people, he's also said some pretty nasty things about you behind your back. The sooner you stop letting him try to control you the better off you'll be. Besides, don't you hate it when other people tell you what to do?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) — A weekend getaway is just what you need. Take a road trip with a friend. No matter where you end up, it's sure to be a fun experience. If you really can't get away, a shopping trip is a great alternative.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) — Falling behing on your school work will cause you many headaches in the long run. Tackle that project you've been dreading. You'll feel much better once it's all finished.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) — At the end of a week an important decision will have to be made. Weigh each side carefully before you act to eliminate misunderstandings in the long run.

Straight Faced shakes Mindbomb

By CHARLIE ASHBURY
Staff Writer

ST. CATHARINES — It was an evening of in-your-face aggression.

On Oct. 7, the St. Catharines bar The Mind Bomb was transformed into musical heaven as three excellent acts took the stage.

The band exploded with high energy levels

Local favourites Pull off the Grind opened the show nicely with their own brand of punk with a mix of hardcore. Pull off the Grind is dubbed Niagara's No. 1 hardcore act. This night they lived up to the billing.

Boston's Blood for Blood followed and wasted little time getting the crowd hopping with some classic pummeling tunes. Backed by a singer with a voice that could put most death metal bands to shame, Blood for Blood ripped through an amazing set, leaving the crowd wanting more.

Closing the show was California punk act Straight Faced. The band exploded with high energy levels and got the Mind Bomb shaking.

Straight Faced was the headliner on the bill and they didn't disappoint, as they played a tight set, getting the crowd involved by letting fans do some guest vocals.

Entertainment

Shakespearean play deceitful romance

By MIKE EARWICKER
Staff Writer

To woo or not to woo. That is the question . . . or is it?

Words. They have a way of uncovering truths or disguising lies, of misleading, of destroying ideals, and of changing one's life when they are overheard.

As the complications of words are at the root of every Shakespearean play so too are they with Stratford Festival's production of *Much Ado About Nothing.*

The festival has a unique way of taking plays that have been recently performed in their theatres and giving them new appeal. This year the festival mounts another production of *Much Ado About Nothing,* and with stars such as William Hutt, Brian Bedford and Martha Henry headlining the cast, it makes it hard to resist.

The plot revolves around Leonato (Hutt), governor of Messina, his daughter, Hero (Jennifer Gould), and her fiance Claudio (Tim MacDonald), a Florentine lord. A conspiracy evolves the night before the wedding, when the villainous Don John (Tom McCamus) and his henchman convince Claudio that Hero has been unfaithful to him. He, in turn, publicly humiliates her on their wedding day.

She faints and is believed to be dead. Signor Benedick of Padua (Bedford), a friend of Claudio, continues to have a battle of wits with Leonato's niece Beatrice (Henry). The two are later brought to the realization, through the meddling of their friends, that they love one another.

Beatrice, in an effort to redeem her cousin Hero's virtue, demands that Benedick prove his love to her by challenging Claudio to a duel. Benedick reluctantly agrees.

Luckily, the dim-witted constable Dogberry (Stephen Ouimette), his partner Verges (Brian Tree) and their watchmen overhear Don John's henchmen bragging to one another on how they got away with preventing Claudio and Hero's marriage by defaming her respectability.

All ends well with a double wedding and good cheer.

The play takes awhile to woo you into taking an interest in the characters, but it manages to convince you once Bedford's character is introduced.

Bedford's masterful physical timing and the delivery of his lines take their cues largely from the audience. The momentum is created by the wryness of Henry, his female counterpart.

The scene in which the two banter sarcastically is a treat to watch and the audience is sad when it ends, but looks forward to when they are on stage again.

Hutt, in his 34th season at Stratford, has a wonderful stage presence. He steals the scene in which Leonato, Claudio and Don Pedro (James Blendick) convince the eavesdropping Benedick that Beatrice is infatuated with him.

Constable Dogberry and his partner Verges do not appear until the second act, but there is hilarity as soon as they step onto the stage. Dogberry, outfitted with a bad toupee, and Verges, clad with Coke bottle glasses, bumble their way through the story and happen to uncover the secret plot and its perpetrators, bringing them to justice.

For all its talk, word wars and debates about love and marriage, clarity of thought can only come during moments of silence in the play when the kiss interrupts the words. As living and loving feel good so too does experiencing the delight of this production of *Much Ado About Nothing.*

This production deserves a B.

Singer-songwriter Eikhard expands her jazz repertoire

Shirley Eikhard performed at Brock University's Centre of the Arts on Oct. 15.

Photo by Sarah Storm

Country song wins Grammy

By SARAH STORM
Staff Writer

It's a change in music style.

Shirley Eikhard, singer and songwriter, performed jazz songs from her latest CD **Going Home** at Brock University's Centre of *the Arts Oct. 15.*

Eikhard has recorded and written a variety of music. She wrote a country song *Let's Give Them Something to Talk About,* sung by Bonnie Raitt, which won Grammy Awards.

Eikhard's latest CD, **Going Home,** is her first jazz effort. According to a centre press release, Eikhard says, "I was always listening to jazz, but the timing was never right — none of the labels I was working for was interested in that kind of music."

Performing with Eikhard were jazz musicians, including guitarist Ed Birkert, pianist Bob Erlendson, drummer Mark Kelso and bassist George Koller.

Sharon Root, a fan of Eikhard for 20 years and a fan of Ed Bickert for 30 years, says the show was "mellow." The last time she saw Eikhard was two years ago. She says she was enjoying the show.

Music is "transforming," says *Eikhard.*

She started singing professionally when she was 12 years old. In 1969, when she was 13, Eikhard sang in a festival. All of her favourite singers were performing at this festival, says Eikhard, and it gave her a "lovely feeling."

This is when she decided to be a singer, says Eikhard.

When performing she says she "goes off in a zone."

Eikhard says she likes performing with Bickert and Co. because there is always something different.

B.C. play cancelled over economy

By MIKE EARWICKER
Staff Writer

A huge hit in Niagara-on-the-Lake doesn't guarantee huge ticket sales in Vancouver.

The November engagement of the Shaw Festival's play *You Can't Take It With You* , to be presented by Livent Inc., in Vancouver, B.C., has been cancelled.

The play was to be Shaw Festival's premiere in Western Canada, but British Columbia's struggling economy and other negative economic indicators forced an administrative decision to cancel the show's week-long run.

"We are disappointed, but it has not put a damper on the idea of working with them again," said Odette Yazbeck, Shaw's senior communications manager.

Festival officials says they were hoping mounting the play in Vancouver would open new opportunities and partnerships.

"It is a reminder that in certain circumstances the economy directly affects theatre," said Neil Munro, director of the play and resident director of the Shaw Festival. "It would have taken a company the size of Livent to move a show this size."

Ticket sales for *You Can't Take It With You*, at the Festival, are at almost $3 million with 93.5 per cent of the houses sold out and just a little over a week left in its repertory run.

Livent says it hopes, despite a lack of ticket sales this year, that next season it will be able to include the Shaw Festival in its market.

Shop at Sly Corner extended

Show opened to critical acclaim

By MIKE EARWICKER
Staff Writer

Murder and mayhem. It's all part of the show.

Because of popular demand, Niagara-on-the-Lake's Shaw Festival has extended the run of its suspense thriller *The Shop at Sly Corner.*

The play is one in a number of rediscovered mystery series the festival is offering its audience.

Set in 1930s London, England, Descius Heiss, played by Michael Ball, runs a small antique shop to support his family. His daughter, played by Fiona Byrne, has a forthcoming marriage to a successful navy doctor, played by Simon Bradbury. Heiss' life couldn't be better. Unfortunately, skeletons don't stay in their closets and his past returns to haunt him, with tragic results.

The Shop at Sly Corner opened to critical and popular acclaim, prompting the extension to the end of November. The holdover schedule includes 2 p.m. performances Tuesdays to Sundays and 8 p.m. performances on Fridays and Saturdays. The run ends on Nov. 29.

"The extension is a great opportunity for people, especially students, to see the show," said Odette Yazbeck, Shaw Festival's senior communications manager.

There are many ways to save a few dollars when ordering tickets. Ticket prices range from $40 to $65, with weekday matinee tickets available for seniors at $23 and students at $15. A two-for-one special is available for Friday and Saturday evening shows by quoting the discount code CP811z when ordering.

For information or orders call the box office at 1-800-511-7429 or locally at 905-468-2172 between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., seven days a week.

The Shop at Sly Corner
by Edward Percy
HELD OVER UNTIL NOVEMBER 29
A murder mystery with a powerful twist
Festival Shaw
CALL TODAY FOR TICKETS
Shaw Festival Box Office
1 800 511-SHAW
TWO FOR ONE OFFER: Every Friday and Saturday night in November, purchase two tickets for the price of one. Simply quote discount code CP817z when ordering your tickets. Some restrictions may apply.
Sponsored by CIBC Wood Gundy Securities Inc. and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Music

Both sides now on System's sound can't agree

By CHARLIE ASHBURY
Staff Writer

Originality seemed to be a thing of the past in music these days, but then comes along the band System of a Down.

System of a Down (SOAD) have been gaining popularity since they attacked the music scene in July with their self-titled debut. The album is just crushing, mixing straight-on metal with a variety of interesting techniques, such as Middle-Eastern melodies and some insane drum work. Throw in some crushing riffs from guitarist Daron Malakian, and this is a keeper.

Above all, the thing that sets SOAD apart from other bands is dynamic singer Serj Tankian. Tankian's vocal range is uncanny. He can hit the high notes with almost opera-like screeching, yet can bring you way down with his deathly growl. Just listening to his voice made me a fan immediately, and, believe me, he can sing. I have seen this band live twice and on both occasions I left with my jaw just off the floor.

Tracks *Suite-Pee* and *Know* give you two quick boots to the butt and get you right into what SOAD is all about.

Sugar and *DDevil* show how the band mixes all their influences and comes out with something special. *War?* transforms the band into a group of musical terrorists, as they attack the CIA and the military.

Go out and buy this album. It's a refreshing change from anything you've heard.

I give it eight out of 10.

By MELINDA JOHNSTON
Staff Writer

These certainly aren't love songs.

System of a Down are a four-piece speed metal (for lack of a better category) band from California.

Their garrulous songs, sung at 150 beats per second, are barely audible. Serj Tankians' vocal cords are constantly being put to test with his high-pitched, window-cracking wail one second and the next it's a grotty, dirty "I can't get close enough to the microphone" growl, very similar to the one Stephen King's killer dog Cujo possessed.

Deciphering songs one to 13 is a task in itself. I thought I was still listening to song one until I glanced at the liquid crystal display on the CD player and saw I had made it to song five. The songs just seem to blend without a notable change.

John Dolmayans' energetic drum playing is fast, hard and crazy, often monopolizing the songs and overshadowing vocals, bass and guitar. Dolmayan bangs on those skins so fiercely and uncontrollably, one wonders if he's drumming to his own beat. You can hear the sweat dripping off his face.

Daron Malakian on guitar and Shavo Odadjian on bass play their instruments like any respectable speed metal band member should — fast, ripping and screeching.

After listening to this self-titled CD, read the Special Thanks section and don't be surprised to see Suicidal Tendencies, Korn and Slayer, among others, listed.

I give it three out of 10.

Hill climbing fast

By AMY KAAL
Staff Writer

She is at the peak of the music hill.

Lauryn Hill's first solo album is **The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill**. The album has a hip-hop and rhythm and blues feel to its 14 songs with two bonus tracks.

According to the press release provided by Ruffhouse/Columbia Records, the album isn't meant to be taken literally. Hill says miseducation is about the things you've learned outside school, outside what society deems appropriate and mandatory.

Her personal feelings come across strongly in the song *To Zion*, which is about her newborn son.

Hill has displayed her talent in two previous albums, **Blunted on Reality** and **The Score** with the Fugees. Hill co-produced and co-wrote **The Score**.

Carlos Santana, Mary J. Blige and D'Angelo perform on the new solo album, displaying their talent.

Her distinct voice tells a story in each song.

Every Ghetto, Every City talks about Hill's childhood in New Jersey.

The first single, *Doo Wop (That Thing)*, tells the story of women and men and the issues they deal with in relationships such as one-night stands, respect and illegitimate children.

The quote from song No. 14, *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*, best explains what Hill is all about: "And deep in my heart the answer it was in me, and I made up my mind to find my own destiny."

This appears to be the first of many successful albums ahead for Hill.

First rule should be don't buy First Family 4 Life

By STACEY SCHMITT
Staff Writer

Three words: Do not buy.

That's how I felt after listening to the new M.O.P. CD **First Family 4 Life**.

Although I'm not a huge fan of the hip-hop style of music, I do like some groups such as Hip Club Groove and The Rascalz. M.O.P. did nothing for me.

Right from track one through to track 17, M.O.P. douses the songs with pretty good beats and rhymes. What holds them back is that close to every other word in each song is swearing. After 17 songs this is very annoying. This CD deserves the parental advisory logo on the front cover.

Some songs are okay, such as *Breakin' The Rules*, which features an *Eye of the Tiger* sample.

I tried as hard as I could to listen to **First Family 4 Life** all the way through in one sitting.

First Family 4 Life is what I'd label a very immature CD. M.O.P. does not break any new ground here. Approach with caution.

First Family 4 Life receives three out of 10.

Sour lyrics ruin this album

For this CD you need an open mind

By SEAN COFFEY
Staff Writer

Looks can be deceiving.

At first, I figured the latest CD **Heavenz Movie** by Bizzy Bone would be a mellow mix of rap music.

I admit I'm not a rap fan so I may not be the best person in the world to comment.

Having revealed this, I did listen to the CD with an open mind and, for the most part, I didn't find it all that bad. There's a decent rhythm although the lyrics aren't in the best of taste. This I knew ahead of time because of the parental advisory on the cover.

At the 13th track I became a little disturbed about what I heard.

It started with the ringing of a school bell followed by the sounds of students leaving class and proceeding to the next. Then came a series of gun shots, followed by screaming.

I'm not sure how to take the lyrics of the tune that followed but I got the sense this artist was trying to show the tragedy of the urban scene in which he lives, or has lived.

For a fan of this music I'd recommend Heavenz Movie. If you can understand Bizzy Bones' point, please let me know.

Sunshine from Kamen

Songwriter offers change

By LEAH FARNAN
Staff Writer

Morley's **Sun Machine** shines.

Morley Kamen, singer/songwriter for the new CD **Sun Machine**, entertains listeners with her splendid voice, offering tones which are soft yet strong.

This album incorporates a variety of instruments, including the violin and organ, that unleashes a unique sound which will enrapture listeners.

"The goal of each song is growth and transformation," says Kamen, in a recent press release from the Sony Record Co. "I believe in people's capacity to change."

Change is exactly what this CD offers. It couples refreshing lyrics with soothing melodies, producing music that is truly different.

Before making her debut CD **Sun Machine**, Kamen spent time as a choreographer. She brought the skills she learned from that to her music. The result is rhythmic songs that flow without effort.

This one's worth buying.

Tropical bash to raise cash

Niagara College students are eligible to win an all-expense paid trip for two to the Caribbean, but they must attend a Caribbean Bash at the Palm Grove Restaurant and Night Club at 57 Carlisle St., in St. Catharines, on Dec. 3.

The bash, which begins at 8 p.m., is sponsored by net-worth advertising as a fund-raiser for Associated Charities and Community Care in St. Catharines to assist with their Christmas campaigns.

"It's a chance to dress in your favorite Hawaiian print shirts, Bermuda shorts, tank tops, floppy hats and wild sunglasses," says Rhonda Perelli, a special events coordinator for net worth advertising, and a graduate of Niagara College's Public Relations (Post-Graduate) program.

Tickets cost $40. Advance sales only.

For more information, contact Perelli at 1-905-684-4246 or e-mail her at rperelli@vaxxine.com

Literature

Grad writes book aimed at helping others

100 copies sold to date

By MARNI ANDERSON
Staff Writer

A graduate of Niagara College has written a book.

James Cloughley, author of *Managing Me . . . It's an Inside Job*, graduated from the Social Service Worker program in 1993.

An addiction counsellor and case manager at the New Port Centre in Port Colborne, Cloughley says the college's program was "an amazing source of information and training," adding "it offers practical experience, which was invaluable."

He says he started thinking about writing a book after noticing an "interesting phenomenon" with some patients at the Greater Niagara General Hospital (GNGH) in Niagara Falls.

He says a lot of them were heavily medicated. "It seemed to me sort of a catch-22 that as long as they were really heavily medicated they weren't going to be able to develop any of the skills necessary to deal with the issues that they were presenting so how were they going to get any better?"

Cloughley goes to GNGH one day a week to work with patients who don't have transportation to the New Port Centre. These clients are "dually diagnosed," he says. "They have a mental health diagnosis of some kind as well as a substance abuse problem."

After noticing this, he says, he started working with his clients "in a way that was similar to that observation," adding they started taking "really small steps, very small adjustments in their lifestyles."

After a while, he says, he noticed a few clients were "almost medication free."

He says "they had recognized that they could develop some skills and they had some assets and personal strengths that they didn't recognize were there or didn't know how to take advantage of or use."

It took two years to complete.

Cloughley says his goal was to help people understand "we all have strengths that we can use to deal with the situations that we face. We don't need to always be looking outside ourselves for the answers to our problems."

He says at the end of every chapter there are questions, a graph and suggestions as to how the reader could use the information. "I didn't want to just provide theory and information. I wanted to also provide some opportunities for people to learn how they could apply the information in their own circumstances."

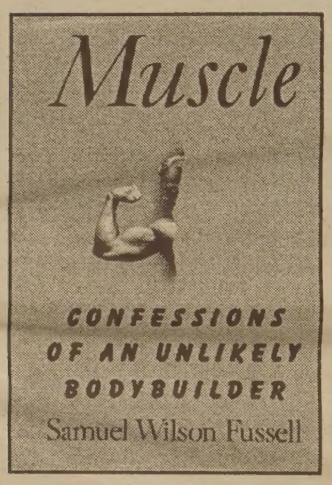
He says he will be disappointed if people read this book cover to cover then forget about it.

He says he wants readers to find it thought provoking and think about what they've read.

Managing Me . . . It's an Inside Job is available at Coles book stores for $21.95. It's also available at Chapters, Indigo books and The Hungry Mind, in Port Colborne.

Cloughley says more than 100 copies have been sold.

Muscle-man 'bars' himself from living



By MELINDA JOHNSTON
Staff Writer

Muscle: Confessions of an Unlikely Bodybuilder is a must-read for those fascinated with the grotesque.

The author, Samuel Wilson Fussel, takes you on an unexpurgated journey through the underworld of gym bunnies, body builders and power lifterS, thanks to his personal experience as a competitive body builder and personal trainer.

Hence the title. Fussel is an unlikely candidate for the world of iron, steroids, bulimia and anorexia. He received his honours degrees in London, England, at Oxford University in English literature and English language. Being the son of two university professors he was expected to follow in their footsteps.

After moving from Providence, R.I., to the heavily populated and scary New York City, where an anvil may fall from a skyscraper and bring one to an untimely death, Fussel became paranoid and suffered from anxiety attacks.

Fussel writes of the rise and the decline of a body-building career. One night, while dodging from a baseball-bat-wielding thug, he took refuge in a bookstore. He found himself reading *Arnold: The Education of a Bodybuilder* by Arnold Schwarzenegger. That book was soon to become Fussel's bible as well as the source of his demise.

The next day Fussel began a five-year program of four-hour weightlifting sessions, five six-course meals a day, protein shakes and a daily dose of 190 vitamin supplements. He writes of his attitude change from timidly answering the phone to yelling "SPEAK!" into the receiver.

Fussel's "disease" ultimately moved him from the thin and neurotic to the land of the tanned and the toned: Burbank, Calif. Here he was introduced to the inspirational punches to the face, ammonia capsules, Depends-diapered hard core body builders who lose control of their bowels, scarred buttocks from steroid use and, last but not least, unrequited love affairs with female body builders who have chests harder than his.

From page one to 242, Fussel will captivate you with his well-written, funny and twisted tale of a man looking for freedom but discovers captivity in his own body.

Who's news?

By FYONNA BROOMAN
Staff Writer

Throughout history, a multitude of people have left an enduring mark reflected in society.

It's safe to say many people have heard of Jesus Christ, Joan of Arc and Abraham Lincoln. But how many know about John Merrick, Chuck Jones or Pu Yi?

Great Britain's Cambridge University Press, publishers of the *Cambridge Biographical Encyclopedia*, second edition, edited by David Crystal, is hoping the massive 1,500-page reference work will satisfy its readers' desire to learn.

The volume includes an extensive list section on royal lineage, sporting heroes and religious leaders. The information is concise and accurate, and offers links to further information.

The following people were probably unknown to you until now:

• Saint Pachomius was a religious man in the 4th century A.D. He founded the belief that in order to understand and live God's way, one must isolate oneself from all potential distractions by other people who feel the same way.

Incidentally, John Merrick was also known as the Elephant Man. Chuck Jones was a cartoon director who introduced the world to Wile E. Coyote, Daffy Duck and Pepe Le Pew. Pu Yi was the last emperor in China.

He was responsible for the construction of the first monastery in 318 A.D., on Tabenna, an island in the Nile River in Egypt. In all, he created 10 monasteries and two convents for women.

• Robert Woodruff bought a company from his father in 1919 with the idea its product had the potential to be a leading world product. It was called Coca Cola.

• Gnaeus Julius Agricola lived from 40-93 A.D. He was involved with the Roman campaign in Scotland in 80-81 A.D. He rose to become governor within the Roman empire and was the first person to report Britain was an island.

It's never too late to learn something new and perhaps one day, a student will be writing an article about you.

Love, life, relationships

By BARB DODDY
Staff Writer

Our girlfriends always give us the best advice.

They always know what to say and what you should do — in and out of love. Let's face it, when it comes to relationships there's no one else we turn to.

A new book out on the shelves plays on all the wonderful services girlfriends can offer and throws in a few other assets as well.

Girlfriends Talk About Men: Sharing Secrets for a Great Relationship comes from national bestselling authors Carmen Rennee Berry and Tomara Traeder.

The book contains hundreds of interviews in which women comment on "what they truly think about men."

The format of the book makes it easy to read because it is divided into sections. The reader can easily go from one subject to another. This format doesn't take anything away from the book, but allows the reader more freedom when choosing what to read about first.

One of the most appealing points of the book is its reality. Not all of the stories are fairy tales and not all the endings are happy. It deals with situations of bliss and heartache that every woman goes through at one time or another.

This book is a must for any woman with or without a man in her life. It emphasizes not only life in a relationship but also life out of one as well. It lends itself to the individuality of the different people that may buy it.

It's just like getting the advice of a girlfriend, but without the long distance phone bills and unmailed letters.

It's a good buy because it contains life-long lessons and great advice.

Intimate family gatherings

By JACKIE FIELD
Staff Writer

What he really vowed was to be unfaithful, to cheat and to lie.

Garden of Shadows, written by V.C. Andrews, starts the series of five books.

Olivia Winfield married Malcolm Neil Foxworth within a few weeks of meeting him, unaware what kind of husband or father he would be or what kind of son he was.

Immediately after the marriage, Olivia moved to Foxworth Hall and began to discover the real Malcolm.

The book portrays Olivia as a strong and independent woman deeply in need of love from her husband, who finds himself attracted to his father's new bride. Malcolm forces himself upon his new step-mother many times, keeping it a secret from his wife.

His father finds out and gets into a fight with Malcolm. The fight ultimately ends in tragedy.

Olivia gets pregnant not once but twice, and Malcolm distances himself from his own children.

The plot thickens as Malcolm's step-mother becomes pregnant with his child.

Olivia then does something not many woman would do.

Throughout the book Olivia and Malcolm's marriage is in trouble, and by the end all hope is gone.

You can almost feel the pain Olivia feels as she has no choice but to move on.

The secrets hidden in Foxworth Hall are tearing the family apart.

With an unpredictable ending you'll only want to read more of V.C. Andrew's work.

Sports

Knights couldn't quite do it

By LEE WHITEHEAD
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Knights women's basketball team opened the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) season on Nov. 6 with a tough 53-50 loss to Toronto's George Brown College Huskies.

Despite the loss, however, Knights' coach Georgie Groat, 29, of St. Catharines, said she was pleased with her team's performance.

"I think they did really well for the first game of the season," she said. "They did what I asked them. They played as hard as they could."

"We should have won," said Kristin Flindall, 19, a second-year General Arts and Sciences program student. "I wish I didn't foul out. Maybe I could've helped the team at the end."

"It was a good start," said Andrea Flindall, 20, a first-year student in the General Arts and Sciences program. "We played together as a team and hustled. George Brown's a good team so it was a good (game) for us."

The Knights came out strong, jumping to a 9-1 lead five minutes into the game. However, the Huskies' defence stiffened, forcing the Knights to work hard for every point.

Although the Knights took a 28-26 lead at the half, they couldn't hold onto it.

The Huskies came out shooting in the second half and took the lead, forcing the Knights to play catch-up for the rest of the game.

Kristin Flindall was the Knights' leading scorer in the season opener against George Brown College.

Photo by Lee Whitehead

Several times, the Knights closed to within one point, but were unable to tie the game or take the lead.

Kristin Flindall was the top scorer for the Knights with 15 points. Candace Oxford had 11 points while Andrea Flindall scored nine.

Also scoring for the Knights were LeighAnn Breault (five), Kristin Davies (four), Caryn Thompson (four), and Melissa Hallborg (two).

Oxford, 20, a first-year student in the Business Administration program, playing in her first OCAA league game, said she was nervous before the game.

"My stomach was in knots," she said. "It was very different from high school ball. It was a little fast-paced and with the 30-second clock, there's a little pressure. But we have a fairly good team and I think we'll do well."

"George Brown is one of the best teams in our league," said Groat. "Only, losing to them by three points is really great for these guys. I don't see it as a terrible loss. We showed that we're a strong team, too, and people are going to have to take us seriously."

Niagara Knights Women's Basketball Regular Season Statistics

No.	Player	PTS	PPG	FS	Pct.	F	FO
3	Kristina Griffin	0	0.0	0/0	0.0	2	0
4	Misty Williamson	0	0.0	0/0	0.0	0	0
5	Candace Oxford	11	11.0	5/9	55.6	1	0
20	Kristin Davies	4	4.0	2/2	100.0	3	0
30	Heidi Van Der Wier	0	0.0	0/0	0.0	1	0
33	LeighAnn Breault	5	5.0	1/2	50.0	5	1
35	Melissa Hallborg	2	2.0	1/3	33.3	4	0
42	Kristin Flindall	15	15.0	5/7	71.4	5	1
44	Caryn Thompson	4	4.0	2/6	33.3	0	0
45	Andrea Flindall	9	9.0	3/4	75.0	2	0

Legend--PTS-Points Scored, **PPG**-Points Per Game, **FS**-Foul Shots, **Pct.**-Foul shooting percentage, **F**-Fouls, **FO**-Foul Outs

OCAA Women's Basketball Team Standings

(as of Nov. 9)

TEAM	GP	W	L	FOR	AGT	PTS
Humber	2	2	0	150	74	4
George Brown	3	2	1	138	166	4
Durham	1	1	0	59	27	2
Mohawk	1	1	0	58	56	2
Fanshawe	2	1	1	129	83	2
Seneca	3	1	2	158	148	2
NIAGARA	1	0	1	50	53	0
Redeemer	1	0	1	27	59	0
Georgian	2	0	2	49	152	0

LEGEND--GP--Games Played, **W**-Wins, **L**-Losses, **FOR**-Points For, **AGT**-Points Against, **PTS**-Points

Elite rowers coming

By TIFFANY HERRON
Staff Writer

Row, row, row your boat.

In 1999, the World Rowing Championships are coming to the Niagara Region.

From Aug. 22 to 29, St. Catharines and the Niagara Region will host the FISA World Rowing Championships.

About 1,500 elite athletes and coaches representing 88 countries will meet in competition in this high-profile event, which is a qualifier for the 2000 Summer Olympics in Australia.

The event will attract more than 100 media representatives, including a worldwide television audience. Because of the sport's popularity in Europe and North America, it's anticipated 60 million viewers worldwide will watch the championships.

Up to 10,000 spectators will view the competitions from the shores of Martindale Pond, home of the Henley Course, which has recently gone through extensive capital and ecosystem upgrades to meet FISA standards.

Hosting the 1999 Worlds will create an estimated $21 million economic impact on the region.

Niagara College's residence has been chosen by the British National Rowing team as its housing location while training. The team includes 90 athletes and their coaches. The athletes will also be bringing 10 athletes from Hong Kong. The team will arrive the first week in August and reside at the college for two weeks of intensive training.

Niagara College's Sandy Fox, manager of Ancillary Services, has been appointed the key accounts representative for the conference activities.

Fox's responsibilities are to meet all of the needs and requests of the team. She will be doing everything from arranging for special menus for the athletes to meet their dietary needs to setting up security to ensure the safety of the athletes.

David Tanner, British rowing team manager, came to Niagara Oct. 16 and was "very impressed," says Fox.

The athletes will be training at the Welland Rowing course.

After two weeks there, the athletes will be move to the Athletes Village at Brock University in St. Catharines and stay for the duration of the championships.

When our Knights attack

Knights strike back for win

By LEE WHITEHEAD
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights women's basketball team hosted Mercyhurst Northeast Saints from Pennsylvania in an exhibition game on Nov. 7.

In what was a defensive struggle, the Knights came out on top 47-40.

Although the Knights' rebounding game struggled in the first half, the defense played well enough to take a 25-20 halftime lead.

In the second half, the Knights rebounding improved significantly with Andrea and Kristin Flindall grabbing almost every defensive rebound in the first five minutes of the half. This enabled the offence to go on a 8-0 run, opening a 13-point lead.

The Saints attempted a comeback, but the closest they came was a 6-0 run with three minutes to play to close the gap to six.

Top scorer for the Knights was Kristin Flindall with 13 points. Also scoring for the Knights were Andrea Flindall (10), Melissa Hallborg (six), Kristin Davies (five), Heidi VanDerWeir (four), LeighAnn Breault (four), Candace Oxford (three) and Misty Williamson (two).

Coach Georgie Groat said she was pleased with her team's performance and doesn't expect to make many changes before the next league game.

Misty Williamson puts up a shot during the Knights' exhibition win over Mercyhurst College.

Photo by Lee Whitehead

"They're playing fine. I'm not going to change anything dramatically."

Next regular season action for the Knights will be Wednesday, Nov. 18, when they travel to Etobicoke to take on Humber College. The Knights' next home game will be Nov. 19 when they host Ancaster's Redeemer College at 6:30 p.m.

Sports

Schumacher responsible for F1 excitement

By LEE WHITEHEAD
Staff Writer

The season-long battle for the Formula One (F1) driver's championship between Finland's Mika Hakkinen and Germany's Michael Schumacher has ended with the Flying Finn on top.

Regardless of the outcome, Schumacher is responsible for the excitement of the 1998 F1 season.

After the Brazilian Grand Prix, the second race of the season, Hakkinen and his McLaren-Mercedes team appeared to be invincible. Along with Scotland's David Coulthard, his teammate, Hakkinen dominated. Both McLaren drivers lapped everybody except Schumacher, who finished 40 seconds behind.

All the F1 experts predicted a boring championship season. Hakkinen and Coulthard were expected to win every race.

However, they forgot about Schuey. The German gave a stunning performance by winning the Argentine Grand Prix over Hakkinen. Ferrari teammate Eddie Irvine, from Ireland, finished third.

McLaren-Mercedes showed their dominance in the next three races with Hakkinen winning two races and Coulthard winning one.

It was all but over. Enter Schumacher and Ferrari.

He won the next three races, with Irvine finishing second once and capturing third twice.

The next five races saw Hakkinen and Schumacher win twice each with Britain's Damon Hill capturing the other race.

The stage was set for the final two races, with Hakkinen and Schumacher tied with 80 points. Schuey had done the impossible and tied Hakkinen, despite the fact the McLaren was still marginally better than the Ferrari.

Hakkinen's victories in both races sealed the championship, with Schumacher's tyres failing him in both races. At the Luxembourg Grand Prix, Schumacher's Goodyear tyres were not as reliable as Hakkinen's Bridgestones. Schumacher, driving for most of the race on badly blistered tyres, had to settle for second place.

In the final race in Japan, Schumacher's right rear tyre punctured, forcing him to retire from the race.

Throughout the entire season, Schumacher proved he is the best driver in the world. He repeatedly competed in a car not as competitive as Hakkinen's. He overcame all the controversy from the 1997 season when he was publicly criticized for his collision with Canada's Jacques Villeneuve.

He passed Nigel Mansell for third on the all-time list for race wins.

Schumacher has set himself up for an absolutely remarkable 1999 season. Next year will be the year Schuey dominates.

Flutie mania runs wild

By JEFF BOLAN
Staff Writer

Flutie mania has spread south of the border.

Doug Flutie, the new starting quarterback of the Buffalo Bills, has beaten the odds and the prejudiced minds of the National Football League (NFL).

For years the diminutive former star of the Canadian Football League has won team and singular honours as a Grey Cup champion and as the league's Most Valuable Player.

He has constantly been referred to as too small, weak armed, unconventional and, more recently, too old for the pressures of the fast-paced NFL.

Wade Phillips, the coach of the Bills, has defied NFL logic by playing the small star.

I guess other NFL coaches don't like to win.

Flutie may not resemble some of the great quarterbacks of history — the Elways, the Marinos, the Youngs or Montanas — except in one key category: he does the little things right.

It may be true he isn't a big-play quarterback, his history-making Hail Mary throw while he was with Boston College notwithstanding.

He also doesn't make the big bonehead play. Flutie has three impressive wins as starting quarterback of the Bills.

Rob Johnson, the $25-million man, was disappointing in leading the Bills to one win against three losses. He will gain some valuable knowledge by watching the crafty Flutie at the helm.

It's true Flutie doesn't fit the mould of the typical NFL quarterback, but after years of watching the same types of players make the same kinds of mistakes, his approach to the game is refreshing.

Conservative football observers are waiting for Flutie to flop. Once he loses a game (and that is inevitable) watch for all his fan support to dwindle.

He has, nevertheless, given football fans in Buffalo something they haven't had in a number of years: hope.

He won't win the Super Bowl on his own and, frankly, the Bills aren't a Super Bowl bound team, but Flutie has given the local fans something to cheer about.

He has also given the team a chance to remain competitive until Johnson is ready to step in as a full-time starting quarterback.

The Bills' team of the future belongs to Johnson. The team right now is Flutie's.

Quarterback controversy grips Bills

By LEE WHITEHEAD
Staff Writer

The controversy has reached epic proportions.

When Buffalo Bills' quarterback Rob Johnson injured his ribs during the Oct. 11 game against the Indianapolis Colts, Doug Flutie was reluctantly inserted into the Bills' starting quarterback role.

Flutie surprised his critics by performing magnificently in victories against the Jacksonville Jaguars, Carolina Panthers and Miami Dolphins.

However, Johnson is healthy once again and is wondering why he is no longer the No. 1 quarterback in Buffalo.

Flutie was signed to be the back-up, but has performed above expectations and, supposedly, earned the starting job. It may have been the wrong decision by Bills' head coach Wade Phillips.

Johnson was acquired from Jacksonville during the off-season for a first-round pick in the college draft, and was assumed to be the starting quarterback. He went through training camp as the No. 1 man, taking the majority of snaps during the exhibition games in August.

He started the season as the Bills' starter, but struggled as the Bills got off to a shaky 0-3 start.

Things were looking grim for the team until the undefeated San Francisco 49ers came to Bills' Stadium for their first game in October. Johnson played magnificently in the Bills' 26-21 upset over the 49ers.

It was the next week Flutie took over and won the hearts of Buffalo fans. As Flutie mania has seized Western New York, Johnson has become the forgotten man.

Johnson, however, is the quarterback of the future. He signed a five-year contract for $5 million per season before the season began. Whereas Flutie has been playing well lately, Johnson is the man the Bills and their fans need to recapture the winning atmosphere of the Jim Kelly era.

How long can Flutie continue his magic? Probably not much longer. Sure he's doing well now but if the Bills are ever to return to the Super Bowl, they will only do so with Johnson at the helm.

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Jurmain keeping up with trends

By LEAH FARNAN
Staff Writer

Future trends dictate the new products and programs offered by Niagara College.

Marti Jurmain, of St. Catharines, the college's director of New Product Development, says the division was introduced to the college as a "central unit for research."

MARTI JURMAIN

Jurmain has been division director since its inception in February 1996.

The division is responsible for creating new products, programs and services for the college.

Continuing Education will be offering a new course this winter called Community Mental Health, which was developed by the division.

Jurmain, whose office is at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake, says she looks at new trends when developing courses for the college.

When deciding on which ones to develop, she says she asks herself, "Do our students need this?"

Future plans for the division include two courses that will be offered next year in tourism and hospitality.

Jurmain has found future trends in global trade and in the call-centre industry of the Niagara Region.

"Colleges must keep the focus on their regions," she says.

The division initiates articulation agreements with various universities making it easier for students to transfer college credits to university credits.

Jurmain says there is a trend towards post-graduate programs, and she will be developing more of them for the college in the coming years.

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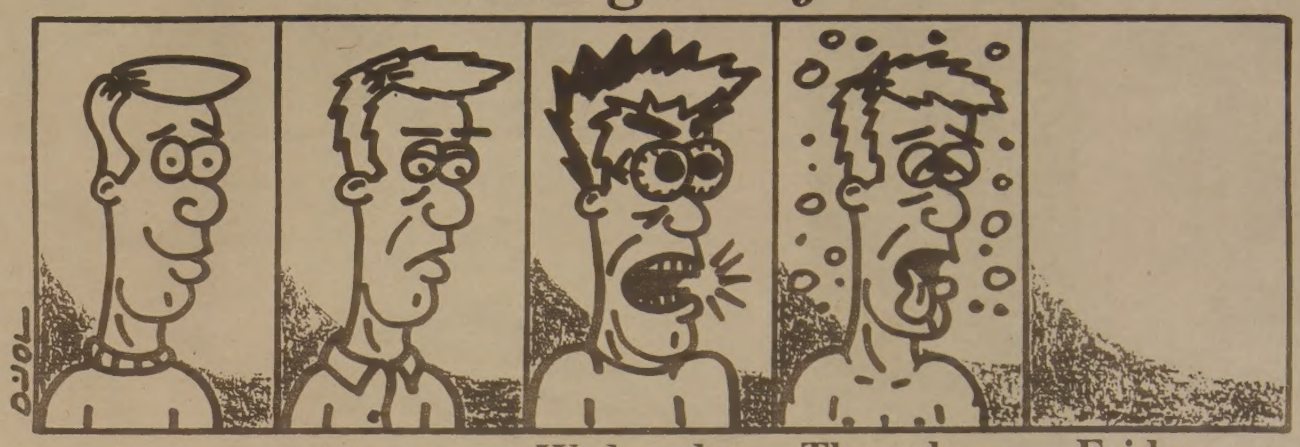

Bad luck, superstition or just another day

Black cats, ladders and broken mirrors mean . . .

By JACKIE FIELD
Staff Writer

As you crawled out of bed this morning, on the left side — the wrong side—you killed a spider.

Half asleep you made your way down to the kitchen, took a plate from the cupboard and watched as it slowly slipped from your hands and shattered to the ground.

Thinking nothing else could go wrong, you go back to your bedroom and get ready for school. You put on your opal earrings and pick up your hand mirror, which crashes to the floor and breaks into hundreds of small pieces.

You go to the washroom to wash your hands and your roommate happens to dry her hands at the exact same time you do.

Back in your room, you notice a big red circle around today's date: Friday the 13th. The only day when something that will go wrong, will.

You pack all your books up, mumbling to yourself about how bad a start you've had to your day, and you leave the house without your keys.

You run back to grab the keys off the coffee table, and dash out the side door, not the door you originally left from. Just as you take your last step, you lose your balance and fall to the ground only to look up and see a black cat crossing your path.

You wipe yourself off and continue your walk to school. As you wait to cross the road 13 cars pass you before you finally make your way to the college.

As you approach the front doors, you enter not knowing that you just walked under a ladder located on the other side of the doors.

Happy Friday the 13th.

Friday the 13th has for centuries been thought of as an unlucky day, and when something bad happens it's believed "bad luck."

The four most believed bad luck superstitions are breaking a mirror, black cats, the number 13, and walking under ladders.

In 1998, Friday the 13th has occured two times and today is the third, so as the superstition goes everything happens in threes.

Watch out for black cats and ladders, and don't start any new projects on a Friday because more bad luck will follow.

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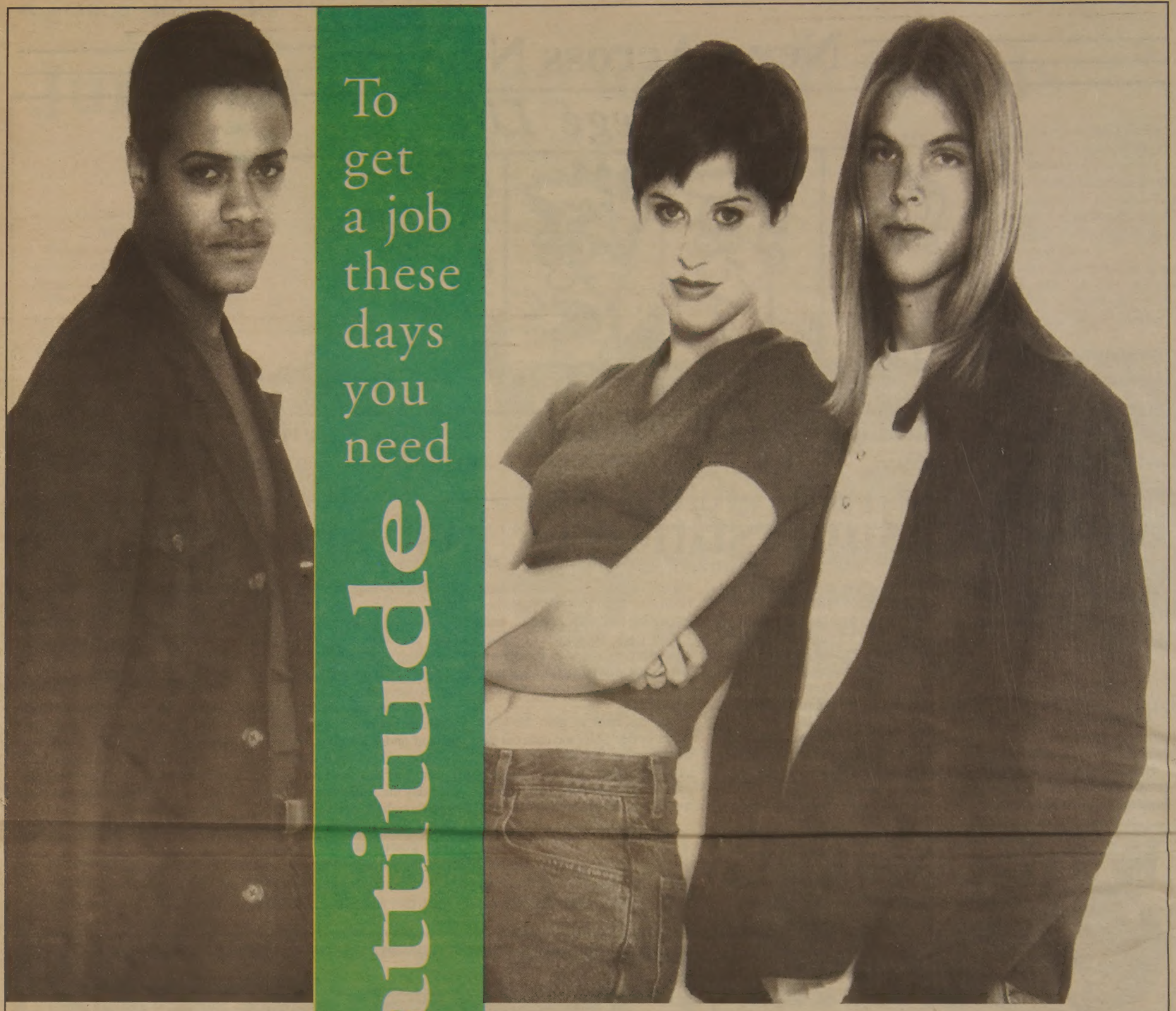

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